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NEW-YORK, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1827.

{NEARLY OPPOSITE THE MERCHANTS' EXCHANGE.

LITERATURE, &C.

THE SUB-MARINE.

By the Author of Whims and Oddities.

It was a brave and jolly wight, His cheek was baked and brown, For he had been in many climes With captains of renown, And fought with those who fought so well At Nile and Camperdown.

His coat it was a scldier coat Of red, with yellow faced, But (merman-like) he look'd mar All downward from the waist; His trousers were so wide and blue, And quite in sailor-taste!

He put the rummer to his lips, And drank a jolly draught; He raised the rummer many times— And ever as he quaff'd, The more he drank, the more the ship Seem'd pitching fore and aft!

The ship seem'd pitching fore and aft, As in a heavy squall; It gave a lurch—and down he went, Headforemost in his fall! Three times he did not rise, alas! He never rose at all!

But down he went, right down at once, Like any stone he dived; He could not see, or hear, or feel— Of senses all deprived!— last he gave a look around To see where he arrived!

And all that he could see was green, Sea-green on every hand! And then he tried to sound beneath, And all he felt was sand! There he was fain to lie, for he Could neither sit nor stand!

And lo! above his head there bent A strange and staring lass; One hand was in her yellow hair, The other held a glass: A mermaid she must surely be, If mermaid ever was!

Her fish-like mouth was open'd wide, Her eyes were blue and pale, Her dress was of the ocean green, When ruffled by a gale; Thought he, "beneath that petticoat She hides her salmon tail!"

She look'd—as siren ought to look— A sharp and bitter shrew, To sing deceiving lullabies For mariners to rue, But when he saw her lips apart, It chill'd him through and through!

With either hand he stopp'd his ears Against her evil cry; Alas, alas, for all his care, His doom, it seem'd, to die! Her voice went ringing through his head, It was so sharp and high!

He thrust his fingers farther in At each unwilling ear, But still, in very spite of all, The words were plain and clear:—"I can't stay here the whole day long, To hold your glass of beer!"

With open'd mouth and open'd eyes, Up rose the sub-marine, And gave a stare to find the sands And deeps where he had been: There was no siren with her glass, Nor waters ocean-green!

The wet deception from his eyes Kept fading more and more; He only saw the bar-maid stand With pouting lip, before The small green parlour at The Ship, And little sanded floor!

THE FIRST APPEARANCE OF THE GIPSIES IN EUROPE.

The tawny complexion, the singular customs, and the particular dialect of the people called Gipsies, together with the severe laws that have been made against them in England, Scotland, France and most countries of Europe, have excited much curiosity as to their origin. The most circumstantial account to be met with, is from an old French Journal, of the remarkable occurrences at Paris, in the beginning of the fifteenth century, the substance of which is as follows:—

"August 17 1427," says the author, "there arrived at Paris a dozen of Pennaucors (doers of penance) as they called themselves—to wit, a duke, a count, and ten others, all on horseback, who pretended to be very good Christians, and that they were of the Lower Egypt. They said farther, that not a very long time before, the Christians had conquered them and their whole country, and had made them all turn Christians, or put to death those that would not. That the lords among them, who were baptized, were made masters of the country, as they had been before; that they promised to be good and loyal Christians, and to preserve their faith in Jesus Christ as long as they lived; and that they had a King and Queen in their country, who lived within their own manors. But they said that, a little while after they had embraced the Christian faith, the Saracens came and attacked them; and as they were not well fixed in the Christian faith, they made very little resistance, as in duty to their country they were bound to do; but submitted to the enemy, became Saracens, as before, and renounced their faith in Jesus Christ. That upon this, many of them left their native country, and came to settle among the Christians; but it happened afterwards, that when the Christian Princes, such as the Emperor of Germany, the King of Poland, and others, heard how their countrymen had so treacherously deserted the Christian faith, and so readily become Saracens and idolaters, they fell upon them, with a view either to drive them out of their country, or to make Christians of such of them as were not. And at last, in a great council, it was resolved by the Emperor and other princes that they could not suffer them to remain in their territories without the consent of the Pope. Whereupon they were ordered to repair to the Holy Father at Rome. That all of them, both small and great, went thither with great difficulty, especially the children. When they were there, they made a general confession of their sins; and when the Pope heard their confession, after mature deliberation in his council, he ordered them, as a penance, to wander for seven years together through the world, without ever lying in a bed; and that they might have some way to support themselves, he ordered, as they said, that every Bishop and mitred Abbot should give them a charity of ten livres, as was mentioned in the letters, with which he furnished them, to the Bishops of the Church; then, after he had given them his blessing, they departed, and had been wandering for five years through the world, before they arrived at Paris.

"The before-mentioned twelve," says the author, "arrived at Paris on the 17th of August 1427, and on the day of John the Baptist's decollation (August 29), the whole body of their common people arrived. These were not suffered to enter Paris, but were by the Magistrates lodged in the chapel of St. Dennis, and were, in the whole, but about one hundred, or six score of men, women and children.—When they left their country, they were, as they said, about one thousand, or 1,200, but the rest had died away; and their King and Queen, they said, were yet alive, and were still in hopes of having a settlement in this world; for that the Pope had promised to give them a good and fertile country to inhabit; but that they must first sincerely finish the period of their penance. Whilst they were at the chapel, there were never seen such crowds of people at any fair or festival, as resorted to see them from Paris, St. Denis, and all the places round. Almost all, or by far the greatest part of them, had their ears bored, and a silver ring, some two, in each ear, which was the fashion in their country. The men were very black, with their hair frizzled; the women were the most ugly, and the blacks that were ever seen; almost all had their heads uncovered, with hair as black as a horse's tail; and for clothes, they had nothing but a single garment or shift, tied upon the shoulder with a linen string or cord, and a short cloak; in short, they were the poorest creatures that had ever been seen in France, and yet, notwithstanding their poverty, they had sorceresses amongst them, who, by looking into people's hands, pretended to tell them what had or would happen to them, by which they sowed contention in several families; for they often told the husband, Thy wife has played thee a slippery trick. But what was worse, while they were thus telling people their fortunes, either by magic or art, or by the help of the devil, or by slight of hand, they drew, as I was told, the money out of people's pockets into their own. 'Tis true, I went myself three or four-times to talk with them, but never saw them look into any one's hand, nor did I lose anything. But this was what the people every where reported; in so much, that, at last, an account of it reached the Bishop of Paris, who went thither, carrying along with him a famous preacher called the Little Jacobin, and he, by the Bishop's order, after preaching a fine sermon, excommunicated all those who showed them their hands, or put any faith in their predictions; and at last, being ordered away, they departed on the festival of the Nativity of the Virgin Mary (Sept. 8), taking their route towards Pontoise."

This is the account given by the author of this journal, and, as the journal is authentic, it shows the falsehood of the vulgar opinion, that our Gipsies are the same with, or are descended from the people called Zinganes, in Turkey, who were banished from Egypt, after the Sultan Soliman had conquered that kingdom, in 1517.—The story these people told at Paris was certainly a fiction, contrived to impose upon the superstition and ignorance of that age; and yet there is some foundation in history for a part of it; for, in the thirteenth century, the Lower Egypt had been conquered by Lewis the Ninth of France, who, very probably, forced the people he conquered to turn Christians; but he did not long hold his conquest, for being defeated and taken prisoner by the Saracens, he was obliged to give up all his conquests and return home. It is, however, doubtful if any number of people left Egypt at that time on account of their religion; because, if they had, they would have come directly to France, when that King returned with the remains of his army, and not have wandered through all Asia Minor, Greece, Hungary, Poland, and Germany.

The better opinion seems to be, that our Gipsies are the descendants of the people called Uxians by the Byzantine historians, who from Persia spread themselves all over Mysia; and lived chiefly by telling people their fortunes. The character of our European Gipsies being the same with that given by ancient historians to that people—viz. Quos aliena juvant, propriis habitare molestum; and their way of supporting themselves here is the same with that practised by their ancestors in Asia, it is very natural to suppose that some of these old fortunes-tellers got themselves wafted over the Hellespont from Mysia into Greece, and their first appearing in Poland, Bohemia, (from whence they are by the French called Bohemians), and the eastern parts of Germany, is a confirmation of this supposition. Their pretending to be Egyptians, who had left their country for the sake of their religion, when it was conquered by the Saracens, was a story well calculated for gaining a favourable reception from the Grecian Emperor, and other Christian princes; but their pilferings and idleness have since produced severe laws against them in most countries of Europe.

INTERESTING NARRATIVE.

Narrative of a Captivity and Adventures in France and Flanders.—By Captain Boys. Post 8vo. pp. 236: London, 1827. Long.

We still remember the delight with which in boyhood we have listened to narratives of adventures and escapes: how little it mattered to us in what century it occurred, or whether we were following the fortunes of a Baron Trenck, or a Sindbad the Sailor. Captain Boys' Narrative is really a very amusing one; and though an escape from a French prison in the year 1803, cannot be very full of marvel or romance, it is well worthy of being ranked respectably among the compositions to whose class it belongs. The following is an interesting account of the escape from the prison at Valenciennes:—

"Having, for some time, vainly indulged the hope of finding a companion willing to share my fate, and the winter fast approaching, I became apprehensive of not being able to make the attempt before the ensuing spring. In the beginning of November, two sailors were sparring in the yard, and so common was this amusement, that it attracted the notice of no one but a stupid conscript of a sentinel, who, fancying they were quarrelling, quitted his post, and commenced a brutal attack on them, with the butt end of his musket; this breach of military discipline soon collected a mob; and the endeavours of the men to ward off the blows, gave them the appearance of acting offensively. The guard was called out, when the gen d'armes, rushing through the mob, cut and slashed on all sides. Whitehurst, whom I mentioned in the early part of this Narrative, and I, happening to be there at the time, roused with indignation at such wanton barbarity, also pushed in, in the hopes of preventing bloodshed. The Maréchal de logis, observing us in the melee, desired us to send the men to their rooms, who, upon the order being given, immediately retired. This prompt obedience, bearing the appearance of generally acting under our influence, was, no doubt, the cause of our being denounced as the authors of the disturbance. We were, however, allowed to retire, whilst nine men, who were wounded, were seized as ringleaders; some being put into the "cachot," and others sent to the hospital. The next morning, Whitehurst and myself were arrested, and conducted to a separate place of confinement, upon the rampart, fronting the town. We were there locked up, with a sentinel at the door, without communication with any one, and ordered to be kept on bread and water. We were secretly informed, that the commandant had forwarded a report to the Minister of War, representing Whitehurst and myself, as "chefs de complot;" the punishment of which, by the "Code Napoléon," is death. Although this did not much trouble us, being conscious of the falsehood of the accusation, yet we judged it right, to lay before the commandant a firm and accurate relation of the facts, referring him to the Maréchal de logis, for proof of our interference having prevented more bloodshed, and restored tranquillity. This respectful appeal to the justice of the commandant Du Croix Aubert, corroborated by the evidence of the Maréchal de logis, succeeded in restoring us to our comrades, and inducing him to transmit a counter statement to the minister of war. I mention this circumstance, because it produced a proposition on



the part of Whitehurst, to attempt to escape, so soon as we could make the necessary preparations. I readily acceded to his proposal; and, although I knew that, from his inexperience in the management of small craft, his assistance could not be great, in the event of getting afloat, I was perfectly convinced of his willingness and resolution. This consideration rendered it necessary, however, to seek a third person, and I sounded five men, separately, in the course of the day; but so prevalent was the belief of the impossibility of getting out of the fortress, except by bribery, that they all declined.

"In this difficulty, I consulted Ricketts, who proposed to introduce the subject again to Hunter. I consented to accept him as a companion, provided we departed in a week; this stipulation being conveyed to him, and our prospects painted in glowing colours, he agreed to join us. From that moment he behaved with firmness and cordiality: not an hour was lost in procuring every thing needful for the occasion; but before we could fix a day, we resolved to obtain some information, respecting the obstacles in our passage to the upper citadel, that being the only way by which we could possibly escape. It was necessary to be very cautious in this particular, and many schemes were suggested. At length, hearing that that part of the fortifications abounded in wild rabbits, it occurred to me to offer my greyhounds to one of the gendarmes, whenever he chose to make use of them. This I did, and the fellow mentioned it to the Marechal de logis, who was equally pleased with the expectation of sport, for they verily believed, that such beautiful English dogs could kill every rabbit they saw. Shortly after, the gendarme came, with the keys in his hand, for them; the Marechal de logis waiting at the gate. The dogs, however, had been taught to follow no one but their master, so that their refusing to go, afforded me an opportunity of making an offer to accompany them, which was immediately accepted. Whitehurst, Hunter, and two or three others, requested to go with us; four other gendarmes were ordered to attend, and we went in a tolerably large party. We took different directions round the ramparts, kicking the grass, under pretence of looking for rabbits; few were found, and none killed; but we succeeded in making our observations; and, in about an hour, returned, fully satisfied of the practicability of escape, though the difficulties we had to encounter were—scaling a wall, ascending the parapet unseen, escaping the observations of three tiers of sentinels, and the patroles, descending two ramparts of about forty-five feet each, and forcing two large locks. These were not more than we expected, and we, therefore, prepared accordingly. On our return, we fixed the night of the 15th of November, for the attempt. Through a friend in town, I got iron handles put to a pair of steel boot-hooks, intending to use them as picklocks. The only thing now wanting, was another rope, and as that belonging to the well in the midshipman's yard, was (from decay) not trust-worthy, in the night we hacked several of the heart-yeans, so that the first time it was used in the morning, it broke. A subscription was made by the mids, and a new one applied for; by these means, we had, at command, about thirty-six feet, in addition to what our friends had before purchased of the boys. Every thing was now prepared; the spirits and provisions in the knapsacks were concealed in the dog-kennel. On the 14th, Whitehurst communicated the secret to a young mid, named Mansell, who immediately proposed to join, and my consent was requested; but I strongly objected, upon the plea of his being incapable to endure the privations and hardships to which we might probably be exposed; by the persuasion of Ricketts and Cadell, however, I consented.

"At length, the day arrived which I had so ardently desired, and the feelings of delight with which I hailed it, were such as allowed me to anticipate none but the happiest results. The thought of having lost so many years from the service for my country, during an active war, had frequently embittered hours which would otherwise have been cheerful and merry, and now proved a stimulant to perseverance, exceeded only by that which arose from the desire I felt, to impress upon the minds of the Frenchmen, the inefficacy of vigilance and severity, to enchain a British officer, when compared with that milder, and more certain mode of securing his person,—confiding in his honour. As the sun declined, our excitement increased. Our plans had been conducted with profound secrecy, only our most confidential friends entertaining the slightest suspicion of our intention. At the usual hour we retired to rest; at half-past eleven we arose, and, in preparation for our departure, went into the midshipman's little yard, unspliced the well-rope, and returned to the apartment. Desirous of bidding adieu to our messmates, the six who slept in the room were awakened. On seeing the manner in which we were equipped, the rope slung over the shoulder, the knapsacks, the implements, and the laugh each one was endeavouring to stifle, they were so confused, that they could not, for the moment, comprehend why we were thus attired. When told that we intended being in England in ten days, they exclaimed, 'Impossible!' and argued against the attempt, as nothing better than the effect of insanity—insisting, that we were obstinately running, with our eyes open, into the very mouth of destruction. But, as such remarks, if listened to, might only have tended to create indecision, we shook hands, and said good night. When about to depart, Cadell observed, we had better wait a few minutes, as it was then very star-light, and nearly a calm. His advice was attended to, and we impatiently waited the passing of a cloud, in the hope of its increasing the obscurity; but the clouds dispersed, the wind died away, and nothing disturbed the silence of the night but the watch-calls of the sentinels, and the occasional footsteps of the patroles. The anxious state of suspense continued until two o'clock, when we again rose to depart, but were prevented by the kind interference of our friends, who insisted on our waiting still a little longer, arguing, that as I had met with so many disappointments, and had so repeatedly avowed my intention to act prudently, we ought to wait, even till the morrow night, if necessary. 'What folly,' continued Ricketts, 'to blast all your prospects, by false notions of honour!' but the idea of flinching at this crisis, was so repugnant to my feelings, and so wounding to my pride, that it was with the utmost reluctance I could consent to postpone the attempt another minute. A little calm and deliberate reflection, however, soon convinced me of the propriety of his remarks, and the pure source whence they sprang. I also felt, that our liberty and lives being dependent upon my discretion, it behoved me not to allow my judgment to be influenced by the opinions of the illiberal and hot-headed, who, I feared, would attribute our delay to other causes than the real one; however, that mattered little; patient and peevyering, I anxiously watched the stars; and, sensibly alive to every thing that could, for a moment, endanger the confidence reposed in me, by my companions, I heard their opinion; when, finding it to coincide with my own, and the clock now striking three, we agreed to postpone the attempt, till the following night, and then start about eight p.m.; all present, promised secrecy; we replaced the well-rope, returned our knapsacks to the care of the greyhounds, and retired to bed. The next morning, nothing material occurred; the movements of the preceding night were unsuspected.

"In the afternoon, we amused ourselves with writing a letter to the commandant, in which we thanked him for his civilities, and assured him, that it was the rigid and disgraceful measures of the British government, which obliged us to prove the inefficacy of

'locks, bolts, and fortresses,' and, if he wished to detain British officers, the most effectual method was, to put them on their 'honour'; for that alone was the bond which had enchained us for more than five years. This letter was left with Ricketts, to be dropped on the following day near the 'corps de garde.' At half-past seven p.m. we assembled, armed with clasped knives, and each provided with a paper of fine pepper, upon which we placed our chief dependence; for, in case of being closely attacked, we intended throwing a handful into the eyes of the assailants, and running away. The plan was, that Hunter and myself were to depart first, fix the rope, and open the opposing doors, a quarter of an hour afterwards, Whitehurst and Mansell were to follow; by these means we diminished the risk attendant on so large a body as four moving together, and secured the advantage of each depending more upon his own care; for, if Hunter and myself were shot in the advance, the other two would remain in safety; and if, on the contrary, they were discovered, we hoped to have time, during the alarm, to gain the country. Our intentions were, to march to the sea-side, and range the coast to Breskins, in the island of Cadsand, opposite Flushing; and, if means of getting afloat were not found, before arriving at that place, we proposed to embark in the passage-boat, for Flushing, and, about mid-channel, rise and seize the vessel. It was now blowing very fresh, and was so dark and cloudy, that not a star could be seen; the leaves were falling in abundance, and as they were blown over the stones, kept up a constant rustling noise, which was particularly favourable to the enterprise; indeed, things wore so promising an appearance, that we resolved to take leave of a few other of our brother officers; eight of them were accordingly sent for; to these I detailed our exact situation, the difficulties we had to contend with, and the means of surmounting them, reminded them of our letter to the commandant, of last month, and the glory of putting our threats into execution, in spite of his increased vigilance, read the one we had that afternoon written, and proposed, that any of them should follow that chose, but with this stipulation, that they allowed four hours to elapse before they made the attempt. Upon which, it being a quarter past eight, Hunter and myself, with woollen socks over our shoes, that our footsteps might not be heard, and each having a rope, a small poker or a stake, and knapsack, took leave of our friends, and departed. We first went into the back yard, and, assisted by Rochfort, who was now convalescent, but not sufficiently strong to join the party, got over the wall, passed through the garden and palisades, crossed the road, and climbed silently upon our hands and knees up the bank, at the back of the north guard-room, lying perfectly still, as the sentinels approached, and as they receded, again advancing, until we reached the parapet over the gateway leading to the upper citadel.

"Here the breast-work, over which we had to creep, was about five feet high, and fourteen thick, and, it being the highest part of the citadel, we were in danger of being seen by several sentinels below; but, fortunately, the cold bleak wind induced some of them to take shelter in their boxes. With the utmost precaution we crept upon the summit, and down the breast-work towards the outer edge of the rampart, when the sentinel made his quarter-hourly cry of 'Sentinelle prenez garde a vous,' similar to our 'All's well;' this, though it created for a moment rather an unpleasant sensation, convinced me that we had reached thus far unobserved.

"I then forced the poker into the earth, and, by rising and falling with nearly my whole weight, hammered it down with my chest; about two feet behind, I did the same with the stake, fastening a small line from the upper part of the poker to the lower part of the stake; this done, we made the well-rope secure round the poker, and gently let it down through one of the grooves in the rampart, which receives a beam of the draw-bridge when up. I then cautiously descended this half chimney, as it were, by the rope; when I had reached about two-thirds of the way down, part of a brick fell, struck against the side, and rebounded against my chest; this I luckily caught between my knees, and carried down without noise.

"I crossed the bridge and waited for Hunter, who descended with equal care and silence. We then entered the ravelin, proceeded through the arched passage which forms an obtuse angle, with a massive door leading to the upper citadel, and, with my pick-lock, endeavoured to open it; but, not finding the bolt yield with gentle pressure, I added the other hand, and gradually increased the force until I exerted my whole strength, when suddenly something broke. I then tried to file the catch of the bolt, but that being cast-iron, the file made no impression; we then endeavoured to cut away the stone in the wall which receives the bolt, but that was fortified with a bar of iron, so that that was impracticable; the picklocks were again applied, but with no better success; it now appeared complete check-mate; and, as the last resource, it was proposed to return to the bridge, slip down the piles, and float along the canal on our backs, there being too little water to swim, and too much mud to ford it. Hunter then suggested the getting up the rope again, and attempting some other part of the fortress. In the midst of our consultation, it occurred to me, that it would be possible to undermine the gate; this plan was no sooner proposed than commenced; but, having no other implements than our pocket knives, some time elapsed before we could indulge any reasonable hopes of success: the pavement stones under the door were about ten inches square, and so closely bound together, that it was a most difficult and very tedious process. About a quarter of an hour had been thus employed, when we were alarmed by a sudden noise, similar to the distant report of a gun, echoing in tremulous reverberations through the arched passage; and, as the sound became fainter, it resembled the cautious opening of the great gate, creating a belief that we were discovered. We jumped up, drew back towards the bridge, intending, if possible, to steal past the gendarmes, and slip down the piles into the canal, but the noise subsiding, we stood still, fancying we heard the footsteps of a body of men. The recollection of the barbarous murders at Bitché, on a similar occasion, instantly presented itself to my sensitive imagination; it is impossible to describe the conflicting sensations which rushed upon my mind during this awful pause; fully impressed with the conviction of discovery, and of falling immediate victims to the merciless rage of ferocious blood-hounds, I stood and listened, with my knife in savage grasp, waiting the dreadful issue, when suddenly I felt a glow flush through my veins, which hurried me on with the desperate determination to succeed, or make a sacrifice of life in the attempt. We had scarcely reached the turning, when footsteps were again heard; and, in a whispering tone, 'Boys!' this welcome sound created so sudden a transition from desperation to serenity, from despair to a pleasing conviction of success, that in an instant, all was hope and joy. Reinforced by our two friends, we again returned to our work of mining, with as much cheerfulness and confidence as though already embarked for England. They told us the noise was occasioned by fall of a knapsack, which Mansell, unable to carry down the rope, had given to Whitehurst, from whom it slipped, and falling upon a hollow sounding bridge, between two lofty ramparts, echoed through the arched passage with sufficient effect to excite alarm. Whitehurst, with much presence of mind, stood perfectly still when he landed on the bridge, and heard the sentinel walk up to the door on the inside, and stand still also; at this time, they were not more than four feet from each other, and, had the sentinel stood listening a minute longer, he must have heard Mansell land. Three of us continued mining until half-past ten,

when the first stone was raised, and in twenty minutes the second; about eleven, the hole was large enough to creep under the door; the draw-bridge was up; there was, however, sufficient space between it and the door, to allow us to climb up, and the bridge being square, there was, of course, an opening under the arch! through this opening we crept, lowering ourselves down by the line, which was passed round the chain of the bridge, and, keeping both parts in our hands, landed on the 'garde fous.' Had these bars been taken away, escape would have been impossible; there being not sufficient line for descending into the ditch. We then proceeded through another arched passage, with the intention of undermining the second door, but, to our great surprise and joy, we found the gens d'armes had neglected to lock it. The draw-bridge was up; this, however, detained us but a short time; we got down, crossed the ditch upon the 'garde fous,' as before, and landed in the upper citadel. We proceeded to the north-east curtain, fixed the stake, and fastened the rope; as I was getting down, with my chest against the edge of the parapet, the stake gave way. Whitehurst, who was sitting by it, snatched hold of the rope, and Mansell, of his coat, whilst I endeavoured to grasp the grass, by which I was saved the fall of about fifty feet. Fortunately, there was a solitary tree in the citadel; from this a second stake was cut, and the rope doubly secured, as before; we all got down safe with our knapsacks, except Whitehurst, who, when about two-thirds of the way, from placing his feet against the rampart, and not letting them slip so fast as his hands, got himself in nearly a horizontal position; seeing his danger, I seized the rope, and placed myself in rather an inclined posture under him; he fell upon my arm and shoulder with a violent shock. Fortunately neither of us were hurt; but it is somewhat remarkable, that within the lapse of a few minutes, we should have preserved each other from probable destruction. We all shook hands, and, in the excess of joy, heartily congratulated ourselves upon this providential success, after a most perilous and laborious work of three hours and three quarters."

Captain Boys and his companions succeeded in reaching the coast, and arrived in England on the 10th of May, after an endurance of six months' continual hardship and peril.

### A SUBALTERN IN AMERICA. NEW-ORLEANS.

The progress of our shooting excursion having brought us into contact with a greater number of trees than were supposed to adorn this desolate spot of earth, Pine Island, an early hour on the morning of the 19th saw several working parties sally forth, bill-hook in hand, to fell them. The expedition was not undertaken in vain. In less than a couple of hours the whole of the south side of the island was rendered as bare and bleak as the side on which we had landed, whilst the bivouac presented the appearance of a timber-merchant's yard, so numerous were the trees, bushes, and shrubs which were dragged into it. It is probably needless to add, that of the fuel thus procured the greatest possible care was taken. Like the food and liquor, it was put under the charge of constituted authorities; and logs and branches were regularly served out to every mess, proportionate in quantity to the numbers of the men who composed it.

I know not whether the Commissary General considered himself indebted to our spirit of adventure for this very valuable accession to the resources of the army, but he either gave, or appeared to give, to my friend and myself, a larger portion of fire-wood, than, strictly speaking, ought to have come to our share. Among the pieces issued out, there were, I recollect, some six or eight long pine stakes, not unlike the poles with which the Kentish farmers support their hups, and the Spanish vine-dressers their grapes. In the true spirit of veterans, we determined not to throw these away by burning them. On the contrary, we set our servants to work, drove the stakes into the ground, in bee-hive fashion, with the upper extremity inclining towards one another; and filling up the interstices with reeds brought from the swamp, we contrived to erect a hut, capable of affording shelter not only from the cold winds which occasionally blew, but from the rain. Of this we prepared to take possession towards sunset; but Dr. Baxter, the chief medical officer, happening to be an acquaintance of ours, very kindly offered us a corner in his hospital tent, and the offer was a great deal too valuable to be rejected. We resigned our own habitation to certain of our less fortunate comrades and gladly followed our host.

Let me give here some description of the domicile into which we were introduced. It was a large marquee, constructed of spars, oars, and sails of boats. The interior might measure about thirty or forty feet in length; in breadth perhaps half that extent; and in height something less than twelve feet. Being composed of double folds of canvas, it was extremely warm, and perfectly proof against the weather. Its furniture consisted of casks, pack-saddles, sacks filled with stores of different kinds, canteens, linen-chests, and cases of surgical instruments. There was no table, nor any boards which might be substituted for a table; but a quantity of dry reeds overspread the ground, and afforded a very comfortable sofa for its inhabitants. As yet there were neither sick nor wounded to occupy it. On the contrary, as night closed in, numbers of hale and healthy persons, all of them claiming acquaintance with the Doctor, presented themselves at the door, and our hospitable friend made no scruple about receiving them all. Lamps being lighted, a cask of excellent brandy was broached, and with the aid of pipes and cigars, and an ample flow of good humour, we passed several hours after a fashion which reminded us precisely of the many agreeable evenings which we had spent in winter-quarters upon the Douro and the Nivelle.

Such was our condition from the evening of the 16th to the morning of the 21st of December. On the 20th, indeed, the whole army was reviewed, and a new disposition of the troops so far effected, that, instead of three, it was divided into two brigades, and what was termed the permanent advance. On the 21st, there came in to the camp four or five American officers, who had deserted from General Jackson's army, and proposed to follow our fortunes, whilst a few warriors believed from the tribes of the Cherokees and Choctaws, likewise appeared amongst us. With the former personages I found an opportunity of holding some conversation. When asked as to their motives for deserting, they made no hesitation in declaring that they had come over to the side which they believed to be the strongest; perfectly satisfied that there was no force in Louisiana capable of offering to us any serious resistance.

Whilst the troops were thus amusing themselves in Pine Island boats from every ship in the fleet, transports as well as vessels of war, were assembling in large numbers along the beach. To protect the rear against annoyance, each launch, as well as some of the barges, was armed with a twelve-pound cannon in the bows, whilst the six cutters lately captured from the enemy, with all the tenders and small-craft brought from the Chesapeake, prepared to accompany them. In spite of the most strenuous exertions, however, it was found that the means of transport were extremely deficient. After everything, even to the captains' gigs, had been put in requisition, it appeared that hardly one-third of the army could move at a time; but even thus our leaders determined upon entering immediately upon the business. They were well aware that no delay could possibly bring benefit to us, whilst every hour of respite would have enabled the enemy to mature his plans for reception.



At nine o'clock in the morning of the 22d, the advance of the army, under the command of Colonel Thornton, stepped into the boats. It consisted in all of about fifteen hundred infantry, two pieces of light cannon, and a troop of rockets, and it was accompanied by General Keane in person, the heads of the engineer and commissariat departments, a competent number of medical officers, and the Indian chiefs. Two of the deserters were likewise put on board, to act as guides as soon as we should land; and a moderate supply of ammunition, under the care of a store-keeper, was appointed to follow. The morning was dark and cloudy, and a cold damp wind gave promise of a heavy rain before many hours should pass. Nevertheless, we pushed off in the highest possible spirits, and only repressed our cheering because silence had been strictly enjoined.

The boat in which Charlton and myself were embarked, was a man-of-war's barge, rowed by six oars of a side, and commanded by a midshipman. Besides the seamen, there were crowded into it not fewer than sixty men and four officers, so that the full complement amounted to seventy-eight souls. Under these circumstances, the space granted to each individual was not, as may be imagined, very commodious. It was, indeed, by no means an easy task to shift our postures after they had once been assumed, for we were as completely wedged together as were ever a child's bricks in their box, or a bundle of logs in what is called a cord of wood. As long, however, as it continued dry overhead, the inconvenience thence arising, was, comparatively speaking, little felt; but we had not proceeded more than a mile from the place of embarkation, when the black clouds suddenly opened, and the rain fell as if a thousand shower-baths had been all at once opened upon us. Then, indeed, our situation became comfortless enough. In the difficulty of adjusting ourselves at all, cloaks and great-coats necessarily lost their clasp, and the neck and shoulders were left bare. There was no remedying the evil now; and though water ran down our backs and shoulders like the sewers in Ludgate Hill after a thunder-storm, yet was there much in the appearance of all about us calculated to carry our thoughts beyond the present moment.—at all events, to make us think lightly of present grievances. Not fewer than an hundred boats, of all shapes and sizes, were making way in regular column over the surface of the lake; they were all filled, to repletion, with armed men, and not a sound issued from them, except that which the rowing occasioned, and an occasional word of command uttered by those in authority. Everything was conducted in the most orderly manner. The boats moved in lines of ten abreast; a little way a-head of them sailed a couple of cutters; the like number protected each of the flanks: and the rear was covered by three traders. There were appointed officers to each division, who, placed in light gigs, flew backwards and forwards as occasion required,—hurrying on those that lagged behind, checking the progress of such as were too nimble; whilst Sir Alexander Cochrane, in a light schooner, kept just so far apart, as to see at a glance how things were going, and to superintend the whole. I confess, that though I could have wished for fine weather, I could not help looking round with a feeling of the highest admiration. Troops advancing upon land, present an imposing appearance, no doubt; but no land movement, in which I have been an indifferent spectator, ever struck me as I was struck by the spectacle now in view.

We were well aware, that the distance from Pine Island to the Bays de Calatine,—the point towards which, our course was directed,—fell not short of eighty miles, and hence that there was but slender probability of our setting foot on shore before the morrow. But the prospect of passing the night cramped and cooped up as we were, was certainly not hailed by any one with either satisfaction or indifference. The rain had fallen in such quantities, as not only to saturate the clothing of every individual, but seriously to incommode us, by creating a pool ankle-deep in the bottom of the boat, while, on account of our crowded state, we could not succeed in baling it. It ceased, however, at last, and was succeeded by a keen frost, and a northerly wind as sharp and cutting as any mortal would desire to face. I need not say, that the effects of the change were perfectly felt by us. We bore it, however, with the best philosophy which we could muster; and if a complaint or murmur happened from time to time to break forth, it was instantly rendered harmless by some rude joke, or an ironical expression of pity.

Such was the state of the weather, in our not very enviable condition, when a gig, passing along from front to rear of the column, gave orders that the rowing should cease, and that awnings should be hoisted. Both commands were instantly obeyed; and as it seemed probable that we were to remain stationary for the night, we easily persuaded our pilot to light a fire. I cannot describe the nature of our feelings, as the pan of charcoal gradually threw out its heat on all sides. As we were thoroughly soaked, and our garments stiff with ice, I hardly know whether the sudden application of external heat to our benumbed limbs was productive of pleasure or the reverse.—But of whatever nature our sensations might be, they were not permitted long to exert their influence. The fire was condemned to be extinguished; and in little more than an hour after we had first dropped them, the gruppings were raised, and the squadron was again under weigh.

As day dawned, a singularly wild and uninviting waste of country opened out before us. We were now within a stone's throw of the American shore, and ran along its edge in search of the mouth of the creek. It was a complete bog. A bank of black earth, or rather black mud, covered with tall reeds, constituted the single feature in the landscape. Not a trace of human industry, not a tree or bush of any kind or description, not even a mound or hillock, served to break in upon the sameness of the scene. One wide waste of reeds alone met the eye, except at the very edge of the water, where the slime which nourished them lay slightly exposed. For some time this cheerless landscape extended wholly upon one side of us; the lake which we were crossing, being as yet too wide to permit a view of both shores at once; but the waters became gradually more and more narrow, and long before the freshness of the morning had passed away, land was visible in every direction. It was now manifest that our point of debarkation could not be very remote; and all eyes were in consequence turned in search of the point near which we considered it to be.

At length the mouth of a creek or inlet, wide at first, but rapidly narrowing, presented itself. Towards it the Admiral immediately directed his course; but the schooner in which he was embarked drew too much water, and in a few minutes went aground. We could not make any effort to relieve him from his awkward situation, for this was not a moment at which serious delay could be tolerated, and our boats were all too heavily laden already, to admit of their taking additional passengers on board. Upon us, therefore, we swept the banks on either hand closing in upon us more and more as we proceeded, till first we were necessitated to contract our front, so as that five boats, then three, and finally that only one boat should move abreast. We were now steering up a narrow cut, which measured, at its widest spot, not more than twenty feet across, and which, in some parts, became so exceedingly narrow, that the rowers ceased to dip the oars in the water, and propelled us by pushing alone. Yet it was an admirable spot for the conduct of a secret expedition. As far as we could judge from the appearance of the soil, the bogs on either hand seemed quite impassable even for infantry. It was covered, as I have already stated, by reeds, so lofty as to obscure, in the most effectual degree, any object which could float in the canal. No eye could therefore watch our proceedings; and though we, too, were not shut out from beholding all other objects besides our own line of

boats, and the blue sky, there was not a man amongst us who entertained the slightest apprehension that danger could be near.

Having continued our progress thus, till the leading boats took the ground, preparations were made to land the troops as speedily as possible. With this view, a party of sailors were directed to leap on shore; who soon returned with intelligence that the soil was sufficiently firm, and that the debarkation might take place without any risk. The boats which were a-head lay so near to the bank, that the people who manned them, were enabled to step at once from the gunwales to the bog; those which came after them were not so conveniently situated. The men were, in consequence, directed to pass on from boat to boat, and so to reach the shore from one point only. This arrangement necessarily occasioned both delay and confusion; but, happily for us, there was no enemy near to avail himself of either; and the whole advance had itself safely in bivouac by ten o'clock on the morning of the 23d.

Though suffering still in no slight degree from the rain of yesterday and cold of last night, the lighting of fires was strictly prohibited.—Concealment, it was understood, was as yet the great object in view; and with the attainment of it, the existence of fires every one felt to be incompatible. Yet was the attempt to conceal our landing almost immediately abandoned. The Admiral and General, having put themselves on board a gig, came up some time after the men had formed; and a sort of council of war was immediately held, as to the most eligible course which it behoved them to follow. As yet all had gone on well. We were actually established on land, an event which they had hardly expected to accomplish so easily and uninterruptedly.—What was next to be done? We were not long left in doubt on this head. The troops, who had begun to scatter themselves a little thro' the morass, were recalled to their ranks, and a line of march was formed. The deserters, placed in front, served as guides, they were under charge of the advanced guard, and directed its movements,—and the little column set forward, quite indifferent as to the nature of the service in which it was about to be employed, and perfectly satisfied that success must attend its operations.

I know not by the use of what terms I shall be best able to convey to the reader's mind, some notion of the nature and appearance of the country through which our first movement was made. The bog, thought soft, gave not away, as we had expected it would, beneath our tread, as long as we kept close to the margin of the creek, though any extended departure from that line of road brought us into a perfect quagmire. Yet were we compelled to move slowly, in part, because the weeds formed an obstacle to our progress, which it required a regular body of pioneers to remove, and in part, because there ran up from the canal, here and there, wide and deep ditches, across which rude bridges required to be thrown, before we were enabled to pass them. Of the scenery, again, all that can be said, is, that for the space of perhaps three or four miles, it never varied; reeds, and reeds only, were around us, broken in upon feebly by the waters of the canal. At length, however, the face of the country underwent a change. We were marching, be it observed, on the right bank of the creek; on the left, a few miserably stunted cypress trees began to show themselves. As we proceeded onwards, these became more and more numerous; and at last formed a tolerably close wood. On our side, however, nothing of the kind occurred, till all at once the leading companies found themselves in front of some open fields, skirted by an orange plantation, and ornamented by two or three farm-houses. These were the first symptoms of cultivation which had met us in this quarter of America; and it will be easily credited, that in our eyes they possessed a thousand beauties, which men more accustomed to them would not in all probability perceive. But they were soon passed by; and then the entire neck of fine land on which New Orleans is built, became visible. Before us ran the mighty Mississippi, not like an ordinary river, but like an inland sea, skirting on one side the narrow isthmus, which the marsh and lakes skirt on the other.—Between these two boundaries the whole space could not measure above 800 or 1000 yards in width. It was perfectly level; at least, the inequalities were so slight as not to catch the attention of a common observer. It appeared to be laid out everywhere in large fields of sugar-cane. There were some half dozen houses scattered over it, one of which being surrounded by a sort of village of huts, conveyed the idea that its owner must be a person of some consequence; but the rest seemed to belong to substantial farmers, men who paid more regard to comfort than to ornament. On the whole, the contrast between this picture of industry and life now around us, and the miserable swamp which we were leaving behind, proved not more striking than it was agreeable.

But the satisfaction which every one felt at being again introduced into an inhabited world, suffered some diminution from the reflection that in case anything like activity or enterprise should guide the councils of the enemy, we were exposing ourselves to a danger far greater than any which we had yet encountered. The heat of the column no sooner showed itself in the open country, than horsemen were seen hurrying at their utmost speed along the opposite bank of the river, towards the town. Of the inhabitants on this side, too, several were known to have escaped; and it became evident to all, that in less time than we had expended in proceeding thus far, the alarm of our landing would be circulated throughout the province.—At this juncture, to the honour of Colonel Thornton be it recorded, that he urgently pressed an immediate advance upon New Orleans.—We were already less than ten miles distant from it; the troops were fresh, in excellent spirits; and full of confidence; it required but a rapid journey to put them in undisputed possession. But to a plan so bold, our General stoutly opposed himself. He feared to leave his supplies decidedly behind him; he was apprehensive that his little corps might be attacked, and cut off by overwhelming numbers, before reinforcements could reach it; as if we were not already cut off as effectually as could be from our magazines, which were established on Pine Island, full eighty miles in our rear. Acting under this impression, he would not listen to the Brigadier's suggestion; but having led the division about half a mile towards the town, he ordered a bivouac to be formed, and the troops to refresh themselves. This was done. The men's arms were piled, fires were lighted; and pickets being established, so as to protect the encampment on every side, the main body regarded themselves as destined to pass the remainder of that day and night in quiet.

METEOROLOGICAL.

Essays and observations.—Part II. By J. Frederick Daniell, F. R. S. London, 1827. T. and G. Underwood.

The popular meteorological paper under the title of 'Prognostics,' which a kind correspondent furnished us with for Nos. 429 and 430 of *The Literary Chronicle*, has reminded us of a debt due to one of the ablest meteorologists of the age—the author of the work before us. Our scientific readers will recollect Mr. Daniell publishing a volume of meteorological essays and observations about three years since. The present volume forms a sort of appendix or continuation of the former; but it possesses the advantage of containing a greater proportion of practical information in a given compass. Meteorological inquiries must necessarily consist in a great measure of hypothetical deduction. It is not only beyond the reach of human analysis or of imitation; but many of the phenomena are too subtle even for the perception of our imperfect organs. In fact, nearly all the varieties of atmospheric phenomena are governed by laws which can only be ascertained by examining their results.

Mr. Daniell's observations on the 'Constitution of the Atmosphere' contain, perhaps, too much of what may be termed speculative matter, at least for the general reader; yet it is, unquestionably, the best essay on the subject we have seen. The author's experiments, and the tables he has computed for showing the amount of aqueous vapour held in suspension under every variety of temperature and density of the atmosphere, are deserving of high commendation, inasmuch as they enable us to estimate, with tolerable certainty, the probability or improbability of those changes of weather which depend almost entirely on the amount of aqueous vapour.

The beautiful hygrometer of Mr. Daniell's invention is also highly creditable to his ingenuity, and is capable of showing the relative quantity of vapour at any given period with much greater accuracy than the hygrometers of De Luc or any other variety. But the instrument is too delicate in construction for ordinary observers, and the necessity of having a small quantity of ether to drop on the bulb of the instrument, for each observation renders it not likely to supersede for general use those which may be called self-acting hygrometers.

Considering the indications of the hygrometer as of equal, if not greater, utility than the barometer in foretelling changes of the weather, we are surprised more attention has not been paid to the construction of hydrometers on a larger scale, similar to the circular or wheel barometer. Many of the substances which have the property of expanding and contracting alternately by dryness or moisture of the atmosphere, are also capable of being extended to considerable length without the risk of fracture, and consequently might be extended over a series of multiplying pulleys so as to show the most minute variations in the humidity of the atmosphere, without being liable to the accidents which attend the glass tubes of barometers and thermometers.—But to turn to Mr. Daniell. The volume before us (part 2nd) contains some valuable observations on the radiation of heat in the atmosphere, more especially as it is so immediately connected with the fructification of plants. 'Agriculturists,' observes Mr. Daniell, 'are well aware of the advantage of direct solar heat in the flowering of wheat and other corn crops, an advantage which is never compensated by any elevation of temperature under a clouded sky. A table similar to the preceding, founded upon the experience of several years, would furnish a very valuable standard of comparison; and the causes of fruitful and unfruitful seasons would, no doubt, be found to be intimately connected with the particulars of which it would be composed. For example, it will be seen in the register, that in the very fruitful season of 1822; the force of the sun's radiation in May was seven degrees, and in June five degrees above the corresponding months of the year 1821, in which the crops of corn were universally blighted and mildewed.' The beautiful and daily increasing pursuit of horticulture has also engaged no small share of our author's attention. He justly remarks, 'that the uncertainty of clear weather is the greatest disadvantage to which horticulture is subject in this climate; a circumstance which art has of course no means to control; no artificial warmth is capable of supplying the deficiency when it occurs, and without the solar beams, fruits lose their flavour, and flowers the brightness of their tints. It has been attempted to communicate warmth to walls by means of fires and flues, but without the assistance of glass, no great success has attended the trial. It is well known that solar heat is absorbed by different substances with various degrees of facility, dependent upon their colours, and that black is the most efficacious in this respect; it has therefore been proposed to paint garden walls of this colour, but no great benefit is likely to arise from this suggestion. It is probable that in the spring, when the trees are devoid of foliage, the wood may be thus forced to throw out its blossom somewhat earlier than it otherwise would; but this would be rather a disadvantage, as the flower would become exposed to the vicissitudes of an early spring. It is more desirable to check than to force this delicate and important process of vegetation, as much injury may arise from its premature development.

Notwithstanding the absolute necessity of the direct solar rays for the full development of the beautiful process of fructification, yet it is obvious that in many varieties of wall fruit in this country, those trees which are trained against South walls are induced to throw out their blossoms too early for the extreme capriciousness of our climate; by which means the young fruit is almost invariably more or less cut off by the night frosts of April and May. This evil might be in a great measure prevented by shielding such trees from the direct rays of the sun by matting. It is the general error of English gardening to force premature vegetation, and consequently obtain blighted and flavourless products, in order to gratify the false taste or vanity of epicures in possessing the finer class of vegetables on their tables before their neighbours. We have no objection against any modern Apicius expending a hundred guineas on the vegetable productions of his table in May, because a fifth part of that sum would produce a much finer supply in the month of July; for the money usually in such cases finds its way into the pockets of the industrious class of persons; but we object to the principle, inasmuch as it tends to deteriorate the species of many of the most valuable genera of the vegetable kingdom, by premature forcing at an elevated temperature.

Mr. Daniell also offers some valuable advice to horticulturists as to the necessity of guarding tender plants from the influence of nocturnal radiation of heat. He observes, that even in the months of July and August, in a clear night, the thermometer will sometimes fall to thirty-five degrees, and all the other ten months the temperature during the night will frequently descend below the freezing point. As a means of preventing this inconvenience, the author states, from his own experiments,—

'That any thing which obstructs the free aspect of the sky, arrests, proportionably, the progress of this refrigeration; and the slightest covering of cloth or matting annihilates it altogether. Trees trained upon a wall or paling, or plants sown under their protection, are at once cut off from a large portion of this evil. The most perfect combination for the growth of exotic fruits in the open air would be a number of parallel walls within a short distance of each other, facing the south-east quarter of the heavens; the spaces between each should be gravelled, except a narrow border on each side, which should be kept free from weeds and other vegetables. On the southern sides of these walls, peaches, nectarines, &c. might be trained with advantage, and on their northern sides, many harder kinds of fruit would be very advantageously situated. Tender exotic trees would thus derive all the benefit of the early morning sun, which would, at the earliest moment, dissipate the greatest accumulation of cold, which immediately precedes its rise, and the injurious influence of nocturnal radiation would be almost entirely prevented.'

'Experience,' says Mr. Daniell, 'has taught gardeners the advantages of warding off the effects of frost from tender vegetables, by loose straw or other litter, but the system of matting does not appear to be carried to that extent which its simplicity and efficacy suggests. Neither does the manner of fixing the screen exhibit a proper acquaintance with the principle upon which it is resorted to; it is generally bound tight round the tree which it is required to protect, or nailed in close contact with its foliage. Now it should be borne in mind that the radiation is only transferred from the tree to the mat, and the cold of the latter will be conducted to the former in every point where it touches. Contact should therefore be prevented by hoops or other means properly applied, and the stratum of air which



is enclosed will, by its low conducting power, effectually secure the plant. With their foliage thus protected, and their roots well covered with litter, many evergreens might doubtless be brought to survive the rigour of our winters, which are now confined to the stunted growth of the green house and conservatory.

Mr. Daniell combats the general notion, that vallies are more sheltered from the nocturnal depression of temperature than rising ground. He considers the lower strata of the air on the sides of a hill-will, by the condensation of cold, glide down to the valley as the lowest level, and consequently vegetation in that point will suffer most from the effects of refrigeration.

The author has also some very judicious observations on the proper management of the atmosphere in conservatories or hot-houses. He says truly, that—

'The principal consideration which guides the management of gardens in this delicate department is that of temperature, but there are others regarding moisture, which are at least of equal importance. The inhabitants of the hot-houses are all natives of the torrid zone and the climate of this region is not only distinguished by an unvarying high degree of heat, but also by a very vaporous atmosphere.'

Some idea may be formed of the prodigiously increased drain upon the functions of a plant arising from an increased dryness in the air, from the following consideration. If we suppose the amount of its perspiration, in a given time to be fifty-seven grains, the temperature of the air being seventy-five degrees, and the dew point seventy or the saturation of the air eight hundred and forty-nine; the amount would be increased to one hundred and twenty grains in the same time if the dew point were to remain stationary, and the temperature were to rise to eighty degrees.

Or, in other words, as the capacity of air for aqueous vapour goes on in an increasing ratio, compared with the elevation of temperature, if the external supply of humidity from the atmosphere be cut off, or artificial watering be not had recourse to as the heat increases, the air must abstract the necessary degree of moisture from the surface and pores of the plant, which will obviously be destructive to healthy vegetation.

The necessity of allowing adequate ventilation in hot-houses is also dwelt on with great propriety by the author. The ordinary practical gardener, being too often ignorant of the principles on which the functions of vegetable life are maintained, is not aware that a constant supply of the oxygenous portion of our atmosphere is equally essential to maintain the functions of vegetable as of animal life. Whether oxygen be absorbed and incorporated with the tissue of a growing plant; or whether, as is most probable, it acts as a mere vehicle for carrying off the feculent carbon and hydrogen from the surface of the leaves, is unimportant to the horticulturist. It is sufficient to know that a constant renewal of the air is as necessary to vegetation as an adequate supply of moisture and a regulated temperature in order to obtain perfect vegetation.

The remarks of the author, in his addenda and notes, with regard to the construction and management of hot house lights are also worthy the notice of every horticulturist, but we must refer the reader to the work itself, while we conclude our review by calling his attention to the valuable letter from Captain Basil Hall to the author, on the "Trade Winds." Captain Hall observes, that—

'Many persons have a very distinct, but, as I conceive, a very erroneous conception of the trade winds,—that in North latitude these winds blow always exactly from north-east, and in south latitude exactly from south-east; this, however, is altogether erroneous. The real state of the thing is as follows; the trade winds in the Atlantic and Pacific oceans extend to about twenty-eight degrees of latitude on each side of the equator, and sometimes a degree or two farther; so that a ship, after passing the latitude thirty degrees may expect every day to enter them. It will assist the apprehension of the subject to suppose ourselves actually making a voyage to the cape first outwards and then homewards; by which means we shall have to cross each of these winds twice. As the ship advances to the southward, she finds her trade wind drawing round gradually from east to north-east, and finally to north east, and even north at the southern verge of the north-east trade. This last named, or northern direction, it will be observed, is at right angles to that usually assigned to it—due east near the line. The southern limit to the north-east trade wind varies with the season of the year, reaching at one time to within three or four degrees of north latitude, and at other times not approaching it nearer than ten or twelve degrees, but it never crosses the equator or enters the southern hemisphere.'

The errors which are committed by navigators who do not take into consideration the fact, that the trade winds must, as a matter of necessity, follow the course of the sun in the ecliptic, will consequently be very great, although the ship-owner or merchant is induced to consider the delay in the voyage as the unavoidable result of adverse winds, rather than a want of knowledge and experience of the master in navigating the tropical seas.

'The great difficulty,' says Captain Hall, 'of the outward bound voyage commences after the ship is deserted by the north east trade; as she has then to fight against a considerable range of calms, and of what are called the "variables," where the wind has generally more or less southing in it. At certain seasons it blows freshly from south-south-west, and greatly perplexes the young navigator; who, from trusting to published accounts, expects to find the wind, not from south but from east. This troublesome range varies in width, from 150 to 550 miles; is widest in September and narrowest in December or January. I speak now of what takes place in the Atlantic; for it is not quite the same, far at sea in the Pacific ocean, where fewer modifying circumstances interfere with the regular course of the phenomena, than in the comparatively narrow neck formed by the protuberances of Africa and South America. I may remark, in passing, that it is upon a knowledge of these deviations from the general rule which we call irregularities, that the success of tropical navigation depends. A seaman who trusts to theory alone, will, in all probability, make a bad passage; while another, who relies on past experience alone, will perhaps do quite as badly. The judicious and intelligent navigator will endeavour to unite them both, as is most likely to serve the purpose he has in view.'

With these remarks we beg leave to recommend the letter of Captain Hall to the perusal of every navigator, and the Essays of Mr. Daniell to every one who feels either interest or amusement in the beautiful department of natural philosophy connected with meteorological phenomena.

#### ANECDOTES OF ANIMALS.

From Griffith's translation of Cuvier's Animal Kingdom.

**The Fox.**—The common fox is one of those animals whose habitat is most widely extended over the surface of the globe. It is found in all the middle and northern regions of the old and the new world. The faculty of rapid multiplication and diversified extension, which it possesses in so eminent a degree above the other carnivorous tribes, must in a great measure be attributed to its instinctive choice of such places of concealment as are accessible to none of its enemies except man.

The fox is not a little particular in the choice of his quarters. When he purposes to establish himself in a neighbourhood, he visits every part of it, fathoms the extent of every excavation, and carefully examines every spot that promises a convenient place of refuge in the hour of danger. As soon as he appropriates an habitation

suitable to his wants, he instantly commences to scout the country, reconnoitres every post around, ascertains the resources placed within his power, and the nature and degree of the dangers with which he may be threatened. Constantly under the guidance of the most extreme and cautious prudence, and never leaving any thing to the result of chance, he lays himself down with tranquillity to taste the pleasures of repose. A repose thus guarded and secured is the only one that his natural timidity will permit him to enjoy.

The excessive suspicion of his character renders every new object a source of distrust and inquietude. He is uneasy until he has discovered what it is, and approaches for the purpose of observation with slow and hesitating steps, and by indirect and circuitous paths. Accordingly whenever he is agitated by a permanent source of fear, he betakes himself to flight, and proceeds to seek in some other retreat that security which he can no longer enjoy in his present abode. He passes the live-long day at the bottom of his hiding place, and sallies forth in search of prey, only during the obscurity of twilight and the darkness of night. Guided with equal certainty by the sense of smelling as of sight, he glides along the trenches of the field to surprise the partridge on her nest, or the hare within her form. Sometimes he will lie in ambush near the burrows of rabbits, into which he even occasionally penetrates, and sometimes with the cry of a dog, he gives chase to those animals in the open plain. When game of this description fails, he will subsist on field-mice, on frogs, on snails, and on grasshoppers. In cultivated and well-inhabited countries, the fox finds new resources. He approaches the habitations to collect the refuse of provisions thrown out of kitchens, &c. He penetrates into poultry-yards, where he makes terrible devastation; and in autumn he will enter the vineyards, and feed upon the grapes, which fatten him, and diminish in some degree the disagreeable odour of his flesh. But he does not limit himself to the quantity of food necessary to appease the hunger of the moment. Instinct leads him, where there is abundance of prey, to lay up provision for the future. When he invades a poultry-yard, he kills all he can, and carries away successively every piece, which he conceals in the neighbourhood to retake them at a more convenient opportunity.

This character of extreme prudence in the fox is a main cause of his preservation. It renders him extremely difficult to be destroyed or taken. As soon as he has acquired a little experience he is not to be deceived by the snares which are laid for him, and from the moment in which he recognises them, nothing, not even the severest pangs of hunger, can induce him to approach them. Le Roi, in his letters upon animals, informs us that he has known a fox to remain fifteen days in his subterraneous hole, that he might not fall into the snares with which he had been environed.

This timid prudence, however, completely disappears in the female fox when she has young ones to nurse and to defend. The maternal instinct which in all species, the human not excepted, is probably the strongest of all feelings, effaces in the instance before us the specific character of the animal. There is no sentiment so completely disinterested as this, none in which the sacrifice of self is so instantaneous and so complete. The mother will not hesitate a moment to endure the utmost privation, to brave the most appalling danger, nay, to encounter the certainty of death for the preservation of her infant offspring. She that but a little before was all gentleness, shrinking timidity, and fastidious delicacy, who could not bear the "winds of heaven to visit her face too roughly," becomes on the sudden bold, fierce, and resolute, unshaken by all that is trying, and unrevolted by all that is disgusting. The female fox watches incessantly over her young, provides for all their wants with unwearied assiduity, and exhibits an audacity very foreign to her general disposition against their most formidable adversaries.

If we might presume to conjecture at the proximate cause of this maternal instinct, we should be inclined to trace it, like many other powerful sentiments, in animal nature, to some sensation of physical pleasure, by which its exercise is accompanied. Even in man, those feelings which assume, for a time, the complexion of domination over his constitution, have sensual pleasure as their origin and object, however remote their apparent distance from such a source may be, however they may be glossed over by high-sounding names, or to whatever degree of refinement they may be spun by those mighty casuists, vanity and self-love. All our feelings and ideas, however refined, and abstracted, are resolvable in their last analysis into physical sensation, and the closer their connexion is with this primal source, the more impetuous and commanding is their influence. If this be the case with man, it is much more strikingly so with the brute creation.

About the month of February, the foxes are in heat. They are then heard to utter very sharp yelpings, which commence like the barking of a dog, and end in a sound resembling the cry of a peacock. Gestation continues for from sixty to sixty-five days. When the female is ready for parturition, she prepares a bed for her young with leaves and hay. The cubs are generally from five to eight in number, and born like dogs, covered with hair, and having the eyes shut.

As the vicinity of the fox is productive of nothing but inconvenience to man, and as its intelligence augments its resources against danger, the fox-chase has always afforded a subject of occupation and amusement to great landed proprietors. Many crowned heads, both in our own and foreign countries, have been passionately devoted to this sport. Among others, Louis VIII. of France gave to this species of hunting the preference over all others, and even brought to perfection the employing the hound instead of the terrier, which last, previously to this time, had been constantly used for this purpose. This piece of information we derive from Robert de Salvo, lieutenant of the chase to that royal lump of imbecility.

At about three or four months old, the young foxes quit their burrow. They abandon their parents with all convenient speed, and at two years of age their growth is completed.

**The Lion.**—The period of gestation of the lioness is about one hundred and eight days, and the young when first born, are very small in proportion to their adult size. They arrive at maturity in about five years, and are then nearly eight feet in the length of the body, with a tail of about four feet. If we judge from the length of their nonage, and from their size and general constitution, as observed by Buffon, it should seem probable, that the average life of this animal does not exceed twenty-five years; though it has been said, that some have been kept in a state of confinement for nearly three times this period. The mane appears to increase as the lion advances in age, and not to depend for its growth on that of the animal. The female is without it altogether. The lion laps in drinking, but turns the tongue downwards, contrarywise to the dog.

When young, the lion has no trace of the mane or of the tuft at the end of the tail. These appear at about three years old. The hair of their body is then partially curled and tufted, and not smooth as in the adult state of the animal. It is remarkable also, that when young, they have a dark dorsal line, together with several transverse parallel dark stripes and spots, which give them the appearance, to an inexperienced eye, of being young tigers. They are born with the eyes open, but the external ear is semi-pendant, and does not become erect for two months. The talons also do not attain their retractile power till the animal is nearly a year and a half old. At about a year old the canine teeth appear, a period very frequently fatal to the young, at least to those born in confinement.

The characters of the lion and tiger have been of late considered

as perfectly similar. This assertion, contradicted by the ancients and early moderns, has wholly arisen from some remarks made by travellers to the Cape. No doubt, where similar appetites, similar propensities, similar means, and similar circumstances occur, a great similarity of character must be found. Although individuals are observed to be more undaunted and ferocious, in proportion to the increased distance at which they may be roused from the habitations of mankind, more especially the civilized races, yet the lion, we should submit, when compared with the tiger, is a noble animal; he possesses more confidence, and more real courage; he likewise differs in his permanent attachment to his mate, and protection of his young; while the tiger shows no partiality beyond the period of heat in the female, and is himself frequently the first and greatest enemy to his own offspring. The former of these traits of character is substantiated by a great variety of authors and testimonies, and denied only by the assertion of the colonists of the Cape, who report that the lion, when he fancies himself unperceived, will flee from the hunters; but it must be remembered, that the lion is pursued by day, and it is probable that he bears the glare of an African sun, reflected from a sandy soil, with great inconvenience. It is, therefore, as unjust to tax this animal with cowardice, because he wishes to avoid a contest, at a period when his sight is much deteriorated, as it would be to rate the hunter for his timidity, because he will not chase the lion in the dark.

Major Smith has met with eleven instances, of different lions, which have protected and fostered dogs, and but a single one of the tiger exhibiting a similar kindness of disposition.

In a state of confinement, they have frequently shown unequivocal marks of gratitude and affection toward their feeder and keeper; as in the case mentioned by Seneca, of which he was personally witness, of a lion, to whom a man, who had formerly been his keeper, was exposed for destruction in the amphitheatre at Rome, and who was not only instantly recognised, but defended and protected by the grateful beast. Indeed, those animals which are exhibited as public shows when they have been for some time accustomed to restraint, will in general not only become obedient to their feeder and keeper, but even show a considerable degree of liking toward him, though, in such cases, it is necessary for the man to exercise caution and discretion, and not to expose himself to the animal when feeding, or when its irritability is at all excited.

The keeper of a lion, which was exhibited about the country, at fairs, a few years ago, was in the habit of putting his head into the mouth of the beast, having previously put on a worsted cap, to defend himself from being lacerated by the animal's tongue; and Major Smith has seen a young man stand upon a lioness, drag her round the cage by the tail, open her jaws, and thrust his head between her teeth.

"A keeper of wild beasts, at New York," says the major, "had provided himself, on the approach of winter, with a fur cap. The novelty of this costume attracted the notice of the lion, which, making a sudden grapple, tore the cap off his head as he passed the cage; but perceiving that the keeper was the person whose head he had thus uncovered, he immediately laid down. The same animal once, hearing some noise under its cage, passed its paw through the bars and actually hauled up the keeper, who was cleaning beneath; but as soon as he perceived he had thus ill-used his master, he instantly laid down upon his back, in an attitude of complete submission.

The lion while feeding, will exhibit a more disinterested courage than most of the carnivora. When the prey is thrown to him at one corner of the cage, and the keeper holds up a stick at the bars of the opposite side, the animal will instantly quit his food to attack the disturber of his meal; but if the same thing be done to the tiger, he will lie close upon his food, snort, give shrill barkings, and, at most, just rise to fly at the stick, and then drop upon his meat again.

Unlike some of the carnivorous animals, which appear to derive a gratification from the destruction of animal life beyond the mere administering to the cravings of appetite, the lion, when once satiated, ceases to be an enemy. Hence very different accounts are given by travellers of the generosity or cruelty of its nature, which result, in all probability, from the difference in time and circumstances, or degree of hunger, which the individual experienced when the observations were made upon it. There are, certainly, many instances of a traveller having met with a lion in the forest during day,

"Who glared upon him, and went surly by, Without annoying him;" but when urged by want, this tremendous animal is as fearless as he is powerful; though in a state of confinement, or when not exposed to the extremity of hunger, he generally exhibits tokens of a more tender feeling than is met with in the tiger, and most of the felina.

The effect of the voice of the lion, to be properly felt, must be heard. During sexual excitement, its noise is perfectly appalling, and produces on the mind of the bystander, however secure he may feel himself, that awful admiration commonly experienced by us on witnessing any of the grand and tremendous operations of nature. When in the act of seizing his prey in a natural state, the deep thundering tone of the roar is heightened into a horrid scream, which accompanies the fatal leap on the unhappy victim. This power of voice is said to be useful to the animal in hunting, as the weaker sort, appalled by it, flee from their hiding-places, in which alone they might find security, as the lion does not hunt by scent, and seek for it in ineffectual flight, which generally exposes them to the sight of their enemy, and consequently, to certain death.

The lion is capable of carrying off, with ease, a heifer, or a buffalo. The mode of its attack is generally by a surprise, approaching slowly and silently, till within a leap of the predestined animal, on which it then springs, or throws itself with a force, which is thought to deprive its victim of life before the teeth are employed. It is said, this blow will divide the spine of a horse, and that the power of its teeth and jaws will break the largest bones. [These last sentences were quoted separately in a late paper, but are now admitted to complete this description.]

#### MISSION TO RUSSIA.—SPLENDID CEREMONY.

Investiture of his Imperial Majesty Nicholas the First, Emperor and Autocrat of all the Russias, with the Ensigns of the Most Noble Order of the Garter.

St. PETERSBURGH, July 10.

His Majesty, as Sovereign of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, having been pleased, by a Commission under his Royal Sign Manuel and the Great Seal of the Order, to constitute and appoint the Most Honourable Francis Charles Marquis and Earl of Hertford, Earl of Yarmouth, Viscount Beauchamp, Baron Conway of Ragley, and Baron Conway of Killultagh, one of his Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council Knight Companion of the said Most Noble Order, Knight Grand Cross of the Hanoverian Guelphic Order, and Knight Grand Cross of the Imperial Order of St. Anne of Russia; and Sir George Naylor, Knight, Garter Principal King of Arms, Knight of the Royal Hanoverian Guelphic Order, and Knight Commander of the Royal Portuguese Order of the Tower and Sword, to be his Majesty's Plenipotentiaries for investing his Imperial Majesty the Emperor and Autocrat of all the Russias with the Ensigns of the said Most Noble Order of the Garter, the said Plenipotentiaries and their suites embarked at Sheerness on board his Majesty's ship Briton, on the 6th of June last, and arrived in this city on the 26th of the same month.

The Emperor having signified his pleasure to receive the Investiture at Tsarskoe-Selo, one of the summer residences of his Imperial



Majesty, the Plenipotentiaries and their suites proceeded thither, and on the morning of the 8th instant, arrived at the apartments which had been previously prepared for them in the great palace. From thence the Plenipotentiaries were conveyed to the palace of Alexandrofsky (where the Emperor then was,) in his Imperial Majesty's own state carriage, drawn by six horses richly caparisoned, accompanied by the Grand Master of the Ceremonies, the Count Zavadofsky, preceded by another state carriage, containing two Assistant Masters of the Ceremonies, and followed by three other state carriages, containing the suites of the Plenipotentiaries, the whole escorted by numerous attendants on foot and horseback, in their imperial state liveries. On their arrival at the entrance-hall of the palace of Alexandrofsky, the Plenipotentiaries were received by the Chamberlains of his Imperial Majesty's household, and conducted by the great officers of state to the Emperor's closet, into which they were introduced by the Prince Wolkonsky, Minister of the Imperial Household, and the Count de Nesselrode, the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and were honoured with a private audience of his Imperial Majesty, at which his Excellency the Marquis of Hertford delivered to the Emperor the Sovereign's letters of Credence. His Excellency then presented to his Imperial Majesty, the several gentlemen and noblemen composing the mission. The Plenipotentiaries were afterwards in the same manner introduced to her Imperial Majesty the Empress, by whom they were likewise honoured with a private audience; after which, his Excellency the Marquis of Hertford presented to her Imperial Majesty, the noblemen of the suite. The Mission was then conducted with the same state to the palace of Paulowsky, where the Plenipotentiaries were, with similar ceremonies, introduced to her Imperial Majesty the Empress's Mother, Maria-Feodorowna, and also to their Imperial Highnesses the Grand Duke Michael Paulowitch and the Grand Duchess Helena Paulowna, his Consort; by each of whom they were honoured with private audiences, and were most graciously received. His Excellency the Marquis of Hertford, afterwards presented to her Majesty, and to the Grand Duke and the Grand Duchess, the several Noblemen and Gentlemen attached to the Mission. After the private audiences, the Empress Mother was pleased to invite the Plenipotentiaries and the other Members of the Embassy, to a splendid dinner, at which her Imperial Majesty presided in person. A brilliant evening party and supper succeeded, which was also honoured by the august presence of her Majesty, and of their Imperial Highnesses the Grand Duke and Duchess.

On the following day (the 9th of July), the preparatory arrangements for the accustomed ceremonies having been made, the Noblemen and Gentlemen appointed to assist at the solemnity, assembled in the apartments of his Excellency the First Plenipotentiary; and the Grand Master of the Ceremonies, Count Zavadofsky, and other Officers of State, having arrived to attend the Plenipotentiaries, the procession moved from thence to the Alexandrofsky Palace, at one o'clock, in the following order:—

- Servants of the Imperial Household, on horseback and on foot, in state liveries.
  - A state carriage, drawn by six horses richly caparisoned, conveying two Assistant-Masters of the Ceremonies.
  - His Imperial Majesty's state carriage, drawn by six horses richly caparisoned, in which were the two Plenipotentiaries, accompanied by Count Zavadofsky.
  - Five of his Imperial Majesty's state carriages, each drawn by six horses, conveying the persons who carried the Insignia.
- On entering the great court of the palace, the Mission was received by a guard of honour, and, on alighting from the carriages, was conducted, by the Officers of the Imperial Household, to the Ambassadors' hall, from which (the Insignia being arranged and placed upon crimson velvet cushions) a procession was formed as follows:—
- Francis Martin, Esq. Windsor Herald, in his tabard and collar of S. bearing the Statutes.
  - Lord Seymour, bearing the Garter.
  - Lord Marcus Hill, bearing the Ribband and George.
  - Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Henry-Frederick Cooke, K. C. H. and M. P. (Secretary to his Excellency the First Plenipotentiary); bearing the sword.
  - Walter-Aston Blount, Esq. Registrar to the Mission, bearing the Surcoat and Hood.
  - Captain Francis-George Seymour, R. N. bearing the Mantle and Cordon.
  - James Grange, Esq. Secretary to the Mission, bearing the Collar.
  - Captain Henry Meynell, N.N. and M.P. bearing the Cap and Feathers, and the Star.
  - The Plenipotentiaries, viz.
  - Sir George Naylor, Garter Principal King of Arms, in his Mantle, Chain, and Badge, bearing his Sceptre, and carrying the Sovereign's Commission, Attended by Frederick-Stormont Murray, Esq. N. R. carrying the Crown of Garter.
  - His Excellency the Marquis of Hertford, K.G. wearing the full Habit and Collar of the Order, and the Collar of the Royal Hanoverian Guelphic Order, Attended by Francis-Hugh Seymour, Esq. carrying his Excellency's Hat and Feathers.

At the entrance of the audience-hall, the Plenipotentiaries were received by the great officers of State. The procession then advanced to the audience-chamber, in which were placed two chairs of state, the one on the right representing the Stall of the Sovereign of the Order, the other on the left for his Imperial Majesty, each surmounted by an escutcheon of their Majesties' Arms within the Order of the Garter, subscribed with their Royal and Imperial titles. The Mission advanced into the presence of the Emperor with the usual reverences, and was received by his Imperial Majesty, surrounded by his Ministers and Great Officers of State. The Noblemen and Gentlemen who bore the insignia, having arranged themselves on each side of the audience-chamber, his Excellency the Marquis of Hertford, advancing towards the Emperor, delivered an address declaratory of the object of the Mission, to which his Imperial Majesty was pleased to make a most gracious reply. His Excellency then receiving from Garter the Statutes of the Order, presented them to his Imperial Majesty, who delivered them to the Count de Nesselrode, the Minister for Foreign Affairs. His Imperial Majesty thereupon delivered to the Plenipotentiaries an Instrument, under his Imperial Sign Manual, and the Great Seal of Russia, containing his Majesty's acceptance of the Order, under the usual reservations. The Commission was in like manner presented to the Emperor, who delivered the same to Count Matuszewitch, the Under Secretary of State, by whom it was read aloud and returned to Garter. The Plenipotentiaries then buckled the Garter below the left knee of his Imperial Majesty, Garter reading the Admonition in Latin.—His Imperial Majesty was next invested with the Ribband and George appendant, Garter reading the Admonition. His Imperial Majesty then delivered his Sword, which Garter received as the ancient fee appertaining to his office, and wore during the remainder of the ceremony. The Plenipotentiaries thereupon invested the Emperor with the sword of the Order, after which his Imperial Majesty received the Surcoat, Hood, and Mantle, Garter reading the Admonition. His Imperial Majesty was next invested with the Collar, Garter pronouncing the relative Admonition. The Plenipotentiaries then presented to the Emperor the Cap and

Feathers, and the Star of the Order; and his Imperial Majesty delivered to them an instrument, under his Imperial Sign Manual and the great Seal of Russia, containing his nomination of a proxy, in the event of an installation in the Royal Chapel of St. George, at Windsor. Garter then, after the usual reverences to the Sovereign's stall and to his Imperial Majesty, proclaimed, in French, the style of His Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Sovereign of the most Noble Order of the Garter, and the style of his Imperial Majesty the Emperor and Autocrat of all the Russians, Knight of the said Most Noble Order of the Garter, whereupon the investiture being concluded, the Plenipotentiaries, with their respective suites, making their reverences, withdrew from the Imperial presence, and were re-conducted to the apartments of the First Plenipotentiary of the Great Palace, in the same manner, and with the same state, as they had been conveyed to the Palace of Alexandrofsky.

In the afternoon, by command of the Emperor, a grand dinner was given to the Plenipotentiaries and their suites, the Ministers of State, and other persons of distinction, at which Prince Wolkonsky, Minister of his Imperial Majesty's Household, presided.

The Mission was received with every possible mark of attention, and the whole ceremony was conducted with a splendour and magnificence suitable to the dignity of this Most Noble Order.

GEORGE NAYLER, Garter Principal King of Arms. [L. Gaz.]

**OCCULTATIONS OF FIXED STARS.**

From the Boston Daily Advertiser.

BOSTON, OCT. 19, 1827.

Mr. Hale—If you can find room in your journal to insert the following list of Occultations of Fixed Stars by the Moon, during the months of November and December next, I shall feel obliged to you.—The computations were made by Mr. Thomas Henderson, of Edinburgh, at my request; and should any gentleman whose eye they may meet, be fortunate enough to make observations of any of the phenomena in question, he will confer a favour upon me by sending the result addressed to the care of Mess. Thomas Walker & Sons, New-York.

It has long been regretted by men of science in Europe, that there should be no public Observatory in this country; and I rejoice to learn that there is a prospect of this desideratum being supplied.

Observatories have been called, with singular facility of thought and expression, the "Lighthouses of the Sky"; and no comparison, certainly, can be more just: for it is by means of the light which they shed from afar, that the Astronomer,—who is the Navigator of the Heavens,—is enabled to steer his course from star to star with certainty and utility. With utility, it is important to observe, not merely to his own magnificent pursuit, but with eminent advantage also to the practical, every-day business of a maritime nation.

The connexion between astronomy and accurate navigation, indeed, requires no illustration, as it is now universally established. The advantage of multiplying observatories, however, is not so generally understood; but it may be readily explained by borrowing another simile from the sea. The researches of Astronomy are like the enterprises of Commerce, which owe their chief value to an interchange of benefits arising respectively out of differences in climate and situation. But the exports from hence in this branch of science are at present nothing; and, consequently, the observations of celestial phenomena made in Europe often lose much of their value from the want of correspondent observations in America. While if there were even one fixed Observatory here, the Astronomers of this country would derive, in exchange for its single contributions, the produce of more than a hundred similar establishments on the other side of the Atlantic.

BASIL HALL.

Lunar occultations of the principal Fixed Stars visible in the United States of America, from 1st Nov. 1827, to 1st Jan. 1828. By Mr. Thomas Henderson, of Edinburgh.

Date.	Star.	Magni- tude.	Immersion and Emersion— Mean time.	Appar- ent dif- ference of dec.	Point of Moon's Limb.
Nov. 8. 4.55	♄ Geminorum.	4.5	Imm. 8.59. Em. 9.45.	10° S.	179° L.
" 10. 5.0	♃ in Europe.] ♋ Geminorum.	5.	Imm. 19.4. Em. 19.56.	9 S.	78 R.
" 16. 5.6	♋ Canceri.	5.6	Imm. 17.21. Em. 18.24.	7 S.	110 R.
" 25. 6.1	♌ Virginis.	6.	Imm. 0.12. Em. 9.35.	11 N.	106 L.
" 29. 4.5	♍ Aquarii.	4.	Imm. 10.37. Em. 11.13.	10 N.	60 R.
Dec. 5. 4.5	♎ Piscium.	4.5	Imm. 6.52. Em. 18.36.	1 N.	132 R.
" 9. 6.7	♏ Leonis.	6.7	Imm. 9.57. Em. 10.11.	15 S.	125 R.
" 20. 3.4	♐ Capricorni.	3.4	Imm. 5.57. Em. 6.59.	13 S.	97 R.
" 25. 4.	♑ Piscium.	4.	Imm. 12.51. Em. 13.54.	9 N.	146 R.

\* This is a double star. Its companion will be occulted about 7 minutes before the principal star.

The fifth column shows the apparent difference of declination between the star and the moon's centre, at the immersion and emersion; the letters N. and S. denoting the star to be north or south from the moon's centre. The sixth column shows the point of the moon's limb where the immersion and emersion take place, reckoning from the vertex or highest point; the letters L. and R. signifying to the left hand or right hand of the observer.

I particularly recommend to the attention of the American astronomers the three occultations visible in Europe, and more especially the one on 8th Dec. which being of short duration at Washington, is one of those pointed out by Cagnoli and Bailly for ascertaining the figure of the earth.

T. H.

**Miscellaneous Articles.**

Mr. Herries.—The Right Honourable John Charles Herries owes his success in life to the misfortunes of his family. His father was a very extensive merchant in the city, and during one of those panics which have periodically occurred within the last thirty years, his house failed to an enormous amount. His father was at that time Colonel of the London and Westminster Light Horse Volunteers,—a corps composed of the most opulent citizens, and in which were included some of the younger branches of the nobility. In consequence of this disaster, the regiment voted Colonel Herries

an annuity of fifteen hundred pounds during his life. His Majesty George the Third settled pensions upon his daughters, and the Minister of the day placed the Colonel's son, John Charles Herries, as a junior clerk in the Treasury.

Elopement.—An elopement which has caused the greatest surprise in the towns of the Wells and Taunton, and which from the secret and romantic manner in which it was conducted, and the complete success with which it was attended, rivals the fictions of our best novelists, took place at one o'clock on Friday morning. The lady was the only child of a gentleman of fortune, and the fortunate and favoured lover the fourth son of another respectable gentleman.—Secure in the favour of the fair object of his wishes, the happy lover posted from London, and hovered near the spot which contained his destined bride, till the wished for moment arrived, when in the still hour of night, "The bell then beating one," attended by a gallant Captain, a faithful friend, he placed himself beneath the lady's window—the concerted signal was given and answered—the ladder placed to the wall, the lady appeared, and descended safely into the lover's arms, was supported by him to a chaise and four in waiting near the spot, and

"They are off—they are gone, over hedge, bush, and bar, "They'll have swift steeds that follow, quoth young "Lochinvar." One moment only of anxious suspense attended their flight when the lady descended from the window, and, at the very instant of departure a Welch gentleman who was attached to the lady, but who had been rejected, returning from a party "hot with the Tuscan grape," passed the flying lovers; but he gazed only at the window, sighed, and warbled "Cherry-ripe." Ill-fated swain, while his passion was thus blighted in the bud. Thus disappointed, the Welch gentleman, in a rage like Roderigo, flew to the father's door, and alarmed the house, when all Taunton was in an uproar. A chaise and four was immediately dispatched in pursuit, containing three gentlemen, one of whom was the unfortunate Welch man. The happy couple reached London in safety, and were immediately married in the presence of a mutual friend, who had prepared for their arrival.

Monkeys.—(From a letter dated Gibraltar, Aug. 9.)—It is singular that though this spot abounds with monkeys, there are none to be found in the rest of Spain. This is regarded as a proof that at one time it was joined to Africa; and it is generally believed, that on occasion of some great convulsion, when the separation took place, the monkeys were taken by surprise, and obliged to sail over with it to Europe. They are now in high favour here. The Lieutenant-Governor, General Don, has taken them under his protection, and threatened with fine and imprisonment any one who shall in any way molest them. They have increased rapidly of course. Many of them are as large as our dogs, and some of the old grandfathers and great-grandfathers are considerably larger. I had the good fortune to fall in with a family of about ten, and had an opportunity of watching for a short time their motions. There appeared to be father and mother, four or five grown-up children, and three that had not reached the years of discretion. One of them was still at the breast, though he was quite large enough to be weaned, and indeed made his escape as rapidly as the mother when they took the alarm. It was quite impossible to restrain laughter, when one saw the mother, with great gravity, sitting nursing the little elf, with her hand behind it, and the elder children skipping up and down the rocks and walls, and playing all sorts of antic tricks with one another. They made their escape with the utmost rapidity, leaping over rocks and precipices with great agility, and evidently unconscious of fear. The accounts given of them at Gibraltar, of their mode of living and resemblance to the human race, are hardly credible. It is not at all uncommon, they say, to see the mother take a little one in her arms, carry it to a pool, and wash it all over, and then lay it out in the sun, with strict injunctions, in a language of her own, not to stir till quite dry; and if it should happen to disobey her orders, and roll in the dust without her permission, she runs at it in the utmost rage, grinning and chattering, seizes it by the neck with one hand, and with the other bestows on its posterior a suitable degree of punishment. They are extremely affectionate towards one another. The sergeant at the signal house, had lately caught one about two months old, and brought it home, and the mother came for many nights to the spot, uttering the most piteous lamentations, and using every attempt to get it set at liberty. This is rather a rare occurrence, however, as the old ones are extremely watchful, throw their young on their backs on the least suspicion of danger, and escape with great celerity.

African notion of Matrimony.—Some English settlers in South America, in a hunting excursion across the frontier, were entertained in a kraal of the Amatymba Caffres. The Chief inquired how many wives an Englishman usually had, and how many cattle were required to be paid for one. He was told that no man, not even the King himself, was allowed to have more than one wife; and that property was not given for them, but, on the contrary, with them. "You are a people of strange customs, said the Caffre: Among us no one can procure a tolerable wife for less than ten good oxen, and our Chiefs sometimes even pay sixty cattle for one of superior qualities. Your women, I fear, make but indifferent wives, since no one will pay for them, and their relatives must even pay the man to marry them off their hands."

A Puzzle for the Curious.—Last Thursday, in a town not one hundred miles from Trowbridge, the relatives as below surrounded one dinner table:—

- |                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| One great grandfather, | One mother-in-law,    |
| Two grandfathers,      | One father-in-law,    |
| One grandmother,       | Two brothers-in-law,  |
| Three fathers,         | Three sisters-in-law, |
| Two mothers,           | One son-in-law,       |
| Four children,         | Two daughters-in-law, |
| Three grandchildren,   | Two uncles,           |
| One great grandchild,  | Three aunts,          |
| Three sisters,         | One nephew,           |
| One brother,           | Two nieces,           |
| Two husbands,          | Two cousins,          |
| Two wives,             |                       |

The whole party consisted of seven persons only; are all well known to the writer, who will undertake to prove the correctness of the above statement.

French and English Manufactures.—We have been favoured, by a gentleman recently returned from France, with the sight of a number of patterns of French prints, with the wholesale price affixed to each, and we have requested a gentleman conversant with such things, to add the prices for which similar styles of work could be afforded in this country. The result serves to show that, whatever may be the case in other branches of industry, our calico printers have little to fear from French competition. The samples are 34 in number; the highest price is three francs seventy five centimes per French ell (yard wide,) or about 2s 6d sterling per English yard; whilst the same style of work, better executed, might be purchased in this country for 16d per yard, or deducting the excise duty, which is not payable in France, at 13d per yard. The lowest price is about 29 sous per ell, or about 11½d per yard; and the English price, deducting the duty, about 7d per yard. The average French price of the 18 finer samples (which are all from Alsace) is just three francs per ell, or 2s. per English yard, while the average English price, without the duty, is only about 11½d. The average French price of the 16 inferior samples (which are from Rouen) is 35 sous, or 14 3-4d. per Eng-



lish yard, whilst the average English price, without duty, is 8d per yard. Generally speaking, the work is ill executed, and, with the exception of one or two madder pinks, there is nothing, either in colour or design, which is at all out of the reach of ordinary English printers.—Manchester Mercury.

Shakespeare's Chambers.—Such is the idolatry manifested for the chamber wherein Shakspeare first inhaled the breath of life, that its walls are literally covered throughout, with the names of visitors, traced in pencil by their own hands. The surface of the apartment is merely whitewashed, laid on about 20 years back, during which time, the ceiling, sides, projecting chimney, in short, every portion of the surface has been written over, so that a list of the signatures would at once exhibit all the character and genius of the age, and prove of itself, a singular curiosity.—Among the names thus registered, are those of Moore and Scott, the poets, with the distinguished tragedians, Kemble and Kean; and in honour of the bard, is also the signature of his present gracious Majesty, then Regent, as well of that of his Royal Brother, the Duke of Clarence; to which may be added, those of at least half, the two Houses of Parliament, and numerous foreigners of the highest distinction, particularly autographs of Lucien Buonaparte, and the Austrian Princes.

Instinctive Sagacity of the Bee.—This hardly needs now an illustration; but, the following, which we copy from a recent work on the natural history of this industrious insect, may interest some of our readers:—

"A snail having crept into one of Mr. Reaumer's hives early in the morning, after crawling about for some time, adhered, by means of its own slime, to one of the glass panes, where, but for the bees, it would probably have remained till either a moist air or its own spume had loosened the adhesion. The bees having discovered this snail, immediately surrounded it, and formed a border of propolis round the verge of its shell, which was at last so securely fixed to the glass as to become unmovable, either from the moisture of the air from without, or by the snail's secretion from within. Moraldi has related a somewhat similar instance. A houseless snail or slug had entered one of his hives. The bees, as soon as they discovered it, pursued it with their stings till it expired beneath their repeated strokes; after which, being unable to dislodge it, they covered it all over with propolis.

In these two cases, who can withhold his admiration of the ingenuity and judgment of the bees? In the first case, a troublesome creature gained admission into the hive, which, from its unwieldiness, they could not remove, and which, from the impenetrability of its shell, they could not destroy. Here, then, their only resource was to deprive it of locomotion, and to obviate putrefaction, both which objects they accomplished most skillfully and securely, and, as is usual with these sagacious creatures, at the least possible expense of labour and materials. In the latter case, to obviate the evil of putrescence by the total exclusion of the air, they were obliged to be more lavish in the use of their embalming material, and to form with it so complete an incrustation or case over "the slime-girt giant," as to guard them from the consequences which the atmosphere invariably produces upon all animal substances that are exposed to its action after life has become extinct. May it not be asked, what means more effectual could human wisdom have devised, under similar circumstances?

Animal Gratitude.—On Friday afternoon, a boy of 14 years of age, while herding cattle on the farm of Reideley's, was attacked by a bull without the least provocation. He was repeatedly knocked down and trampled upon for a length of time, so as to be very severely bruised in all parts of the body. Nobody being near, his cries were not heard; and fatal consequences would very soon have ensued, had he not been released in a most singular manner. While the furious animal was getting more and more enraged, he was attacked by the rest of the cattle (oxen) in so determined a manner, that, in order to defend himself, he left the boy, who was fortunately still able to move, and who was thus enabled to escape. Such an example of the exertion of a degree of intellect in cattle, led to an enquiry of the boy regarding the circumstances of the case. The boy informed the writer of this article, that one only of the cattle came first to his rescue and attacked the bull, and in a little time the others came, as if to the assistance of the first. This grateful and generous animal had been during last winter in rather a sickly condition, during which time the boy had paid it considerable attention, giving it handfuls of corn, and otherwise administering to its comforts, which attention it has so nobly repaid, by rescuing its benefactor from a violent and shocking death.—Fife Herald.

DRAFTS ON LA FIFTE.—NO. IV.

THE BAR.

"The Lord Chancellor out! Impossible! Why there's Sir Charles Wetherell who will swear he never was out in his life. John Earl of Eldon resigned! Following at length the example of his suitors in resignation! But are you serious?"

"I tell you, Morris, it is even so, however odd it may appear to you. Evidently the most decided step his Lordship has ever taken, since that more memorable step in Saint George's Chapel, when the chapeau bras was transferred to the feet, having been appropriately provided by the undertaker. It is stated too, in the papers, that before resigning, his Lordship proposed, even when he should be officially default, to pronounce sentence on some arrear causes; but it does not appear the suitors were disposed to wait. For the day of judgment."

"But who succeeds Lord Eldon?"

"Sir John Copley; an excellent man and good lawyer; but just as much acquainted with Chancery practice as his predecessor with a housewarming; Lord Tenterden with bad, or Best with good humour; Marryat with supererogatory politeness, or Henry Martin with a superfluity of fees."

"How will Sir John Copley manage then?"

"He must do as Erskine did, who was in the same predicament—get some one to help him. There's Jockey Bell, for instance, who has given up practice; and a better man or abler lawyer does not exist; but the deuce of it is he can't write."

"Not write?"

"It must not be understood literally; yet, there is not a problem of Euclid, Bell would not readily solve ere one could succeed in deciphering his hieroglyphics, angles, squares, and circles, sections, and curves are so admirably combined to defy elucidation. I remember a friend of his, who had vainly spent the day in endeavouring to comprehend his extraordinary scrawl, on referring to the writer himself for some interpretation of his mystical characters, receiving the following reply in the broad Lancashire jargon of the juriconsult: 'Why, Sir, I have three species of handwriting at your choice; one that I understand but my clerk cannot.' One that he can make out pretty well but I cannot; and a third which neither he nor I can make anything of.' Erskine used to say that Bell's potbooks and hangers were nearly as irregular as the Temple corps coming to the present."

"Erskine was colonel of that distinguished body, I think you formerly mentioned, Ashley?"

"Yes; and so far disagreed with Ealstaff, that bad as they were

instead of flatly refusing to march through Coventry with them, he was most heartily disposed to send them thither in the lump. Heavens and earth! never can I forget the display they made when under arms. Those accustomed to the filing of bills and declarations, fled off without leave. Such as had been studying reports all their lives, used to mar every volley by their awkwardness; they even lost their characteristic aptitude at a charge, and were wholly wide at a mark. However eager for an action, there would have been evidently a demurrer to battle. The clerk of dispensations assumed the dispensation he had not; chaff wax, waxed hot and chafed through very fear; the pursuivant of the court absolutely fled; the very crier was seen to shed tears; the clerk of the bails gave leg bail, while the marshal was anything but a field marshal. Then as to sergeants they were quite as bad as the men. Brother Best was one of the very worst; (by the way, however, he possessed one of the qualities of a trooper.) Brother Manley evinced anything but a well founded title to that name; Brother Rough was 'mild as mother's milk'; Brother Cross justified his appellation by his visible discontent; Brother Wild was really what his name bespoke him; On-slow might easily be recognized by his want of ardour; and Sergeant Runnington literally took to his heels. The very King's counsel seemed to hold special retainers. As for Adam, he was anything but the first of men on the occasion; (perhaps he thought, and justly too, that there was enough of military glory in the family). Topping was low in the ranks; Alexander had nothing of the hero about him; Scarlett turned pale; Hart shewed no pluck; while Weather-all looked as if he wished himself home again.

"The Emperor Paul gave up all his pretensions to dignity;—the prototype of Master Stephen might be found in his namesake of the comedy; for he was about as valiant as a Bobdil;—Le Blanc was white as a sheet;—Still made no stir; Make-peace fitly sought conciliatory measures; in that race of renown he was little disposed to start for the Plate.—As for Nolan, it was not Volens with him, but rather Nolan-Volant;—and, as to the late Accountant-General, they might have played 'The Campbells are coming' forever, without his moving an inch.—Leach, uncharacteristically, swore he hated the very sight of blood—he was not then so attached to the Rolls; while Jeffery made it a condition of his enlistment that he should never appear but in a Review."

"But what became of Garrow?"

"Oh, Garrow had just then had enough of war, and was absent upon leave; for having then recently applied to the Court of King's Bench for a criminal information (or something of the sort) in which Baron Hompesch was concerned, he indulged in some observations which highly offended the choleric German, who took the liberty of calling at Garrow's house, at the very early hour usually adopted for giving and receiving satisfaction. 'The Baron Home push is waiting below, Sir,' said the servant, in awaking and apprising his master of the equally unexpected and undesired visit of his martial guest. 'Tell him I am in bed, John.' 'I did, Sir; but he says he will wait till you get up.' 'He will, will he? Why then, tell him that, by —, he shall wait till Doomsday,' said Garrow, quietly turning himself again to sleep.

"But to return to Erskine.—I remember well being present in Lincoln's-Inn Hall during his brief Chancellorship, when a celebrated and complicated cause, entitled 'Purcell and Macnamara,' was called on for sentence."

"Was not that in Lord Eldon's time, Morris?"

"No; the fact speaks for itself. Did I not say sentence was to be given? Erskine's early intimacy with the defendant, or some such cause, induced him to transfer to that profound lawyer and good man, Sir William Grant, the task of pronouncing judgment:—and no ordinary task it was, even for Sir William's powerful mind.—Without reference to any note of the innumerable documents that bore upon the question; by extraordinary force of memory, he entered minutely upon the detail of the effect of the mass of deeds, intrinsically, relatively, and conjointly; reducing with ease and perspicuity confusion into order, in a speech that occupied several hours in its delivery. It was a masterly display of judicial talent, and Erskine, who sat by him, felt it; and you know that he could not easily restrain the expression of his feelings. While his admiration increased as Sir William proceeded, the workings of his mercurial spirit were demonstrated with more of truth than dignity, by involuntary gesticulation, contortion of feature, and perpetual shiftings in his purple chair, until from excess of ardour, having continued to insinuate his hand beneath his wig, in a paroxysm of ecstasy, his Lordship contrived, with a sudden jerk, to twist the snowy mass from his legal position, eluding a shower of powder that settled in patches on the risible moiety of his face; rendering his whole appearance so irresistibly comic, that, even when the errant peruke stood corrected, it required all the well-known gravity of Sir William to preserve his own seriousness, and restrain in the bar and audience an expression of boisterous mirth, which would have been better justified by the circumstances, than decorous in the Judgment Hall. 'It was a barbarous act,' said his Lordship, as Hardy; helped off his wig in the robing-room; 'but the front and head of my offending bath this extent, no more,' spanning at the same time the headless peruke."

"But my dear Morris, you forget we are wide of our subject. I cannot get over my surprise at Lord Eldon's throwing up the seals.—Income! Patronage! Place! Power! Cakes! Chocolate! Negus! Cards! and Wax Candles! all at one fell swoop! Why, Hamilton-place must come to the hammer."

"Cakes, cards, wax candles! What mean you, Ashley?"

"Why, you must know that by ancient regulation, the officers of the Lord Chancellor, (such as purse-bearer, sealer, train-bearer, &c. are bound to provide for the public breakfast given to the judges on the first day of term, cakes, and other refreshments, out of the proceeds of their salaries; and for evening entertainments, cards and wax lights. As his predecessors Thurlow and Loughborough refused to benefit by this provision in their favour, it is too much, perhaps, to say that his Lordship would take advantage of it, or that her Ladyship's generosity would permit him to accept of it; yet, were the question dependent on his decision, there may be an accumulated fund of sweets and necessaries locked up in the Accountant-general's office of his Lordship's establishment, which may yet keep the wolf from the door in this their hour of need; for, notwithstanding what a malicious world may report, his Lordship has been accustomed to the good things of this life; and, however severe the administration of the house department may be with him, he has often been guilty of the domestic crime of having a sly steak at Dolly's with his brother; and there it is expected that one takes wine, you know."

"As to that, I can furnish you an instance of long-gone-by luxury of which it is to be hoped and presumed that the learned author has had the will and leisure to repent. It was during the celebrated trial of Hardy, John Horne Tooke, and others, for high treason, that, at the close of one of the days, things looked worse than doubtful on

"Not that Bell confirms, but decidedly contradicts, the assertion of a French author.—'Il est bien une de nature qui ne peut lire son écriture.' 'He must be an ass indeed, who cannot read his own handwriting.'"

† Thirteen and fourpence.

‡ The Lincoln's Inn Hair-dresser.

the side of the prosecution, which was conducted by him, as Attorney-General, in conjunction with the present Lord Redesdale, then Sir John Mitford, as Solicitor-General. It was at a late hour of the night that the court broke up; and it became necessary that, during the few hours that should intervene before its reassembling in the morning, the counsel for the Crown should consult on the best means of remedying the defects which had occurred in the evidence of the day; for it was a question that had excited the worst passions in either party, and it was important (were it possible) to convict the presumed traitors. Notwithstanding his allowed good humour, there was nothing particularly amatory in the instances made by Lord Eldon (then Sir John Scott) that his friends should accompany him home; but the necessity of the case, and legal etiquette, decided the matter; and 'Give us bread and cheese, Scott,' was the considerate observation of Mitford, as their carriages were ordered to Scott's house. The effect of such an invasion on the prudent and systematic arrangement of a well regulated household may be better conceived than described. He was but Attorney-General then, and really it required a Chancellor's finances to support that ruthless violation of domestic territory. 'You must just take pot luck,' said Mr. Attorney half sulkily, as the supper was placed upon the table. It was composed of one, and but one, (but let us be just) good and substantial dish—admirably adapted in name to the urgency of affairs and the pressure of the occasion; for it was neither more nor less than *hasty pudding*."

OXFORD NIGHT CAPS.

Being a Collection of Receipts for making various Beverages in the University.

Whatever we may think of the politics of Oxford, we much approve of the Night-caps of Old Rhedycina. Through all her vicissitudes of Ministerial or anti-Ministerial party, whether she was Jacobite as of old, or Williamite as at present, she has held her frame for good liquor. Compositions of Oxonians, in prose or verse, may perhaps be out-rivalled by those of other regions, but in the composition of Bishop, Punch or Rumsustian, the "old mother of Chubbiner and Tories" stands without question pre-eminent.

And accordingly we see that she has judiciously chosen her members of Parliament—one for the promotion of the grand cause of Toryism, the other to distinguish himself by a regulation of ale-houses. Mr. Peel represents the heart—Mr. Estcourt the stomach of Oxford. The various pamphlets demonstrating the danger of the Church, are under the patronage of the former—the great work, the name of which we have put at the head of this article, is, we think, directed to the attention of the latter. It is a work in which there is no waste of goods—no circumlocution, no spending of useful time; it goes direct to its business, and gives at once the whole history of what it wants to say with a brief precision worthy of Thucydides. We imagine ourselves, while reading it, transported to the banks of the Isis, and quaffing the Bishop of Balliol or the swig of Oriel.

Some of the uninitiated will inquire "what is Bishop?" These are ignorant persons, but the present times, when mutual education is the order of the day, we shall condescend to instruct the ignorant. Bishop then, to use the words of our author—

Seems to be one of the oldest beverages known, and to this day is preferred to every other, not only by the youthful votary of Bacchus, at his evening's revelry, but also by the grave Don by way of a night-cap; and probably derives its name from the circumstance of ancient dignitaries of the Church, when they honoured the University with a visit, being regaled with spiced wine. It appears from a work published some years since, and entitled—"Oxoniana, or Anecdotes of the University of Oxford," that in the Rolls or Accounts of some Colleges of ancient foundation, a sum of money is frequently met with, charged "pro speciebus," that is, for spices used in their entertainments; for in those days as well as the present, spiced wine was a very fashionable beverage. In the Computus of Maxtoke Priory, anno 1447, is the following curious entry:—Item, pro vino cretico cum speciebus et confectis datis diversis generosis in die Sancti Dionysii quando Le fole domini Montfordes erat hic, et faceret jocositates subs in camera Orioli.—"Vinum creticum" is supposed to be raisin wine, or the wine made of dried grapes; and the meaning of the whole seems to be this:—Paid for raisin wine with comfits and spices, when Sir S. Montford's fool was here, and exhibited his merriments in the Oriel Chamber.

Recipe.—Make several incisions in the rind of a lemon, stick cloves in the incisions, and roast the lemon by a slow fire. Put small but equal quantities of cinnamon, cloves, mace, and allspice, and a race of ginger, into a saucepan, with half a pint of water; let it boil until it be reduced one half. Boil one bottle of port wine; burn a portion of the spirit out of it, by applying a lighted paper to the saucepan. Put the roasted lemons and spices into the wine; stir it up well, and let it stand near the fire ten minutes. Rub a few nobles of sugar on the rind of a lemon, put the sugar into a bowl or jug, with the juice of half a lemon (not roasted), pour the wine upon it, grate some nutmeg into it, sweeten it to your taste, and serve it up with the lemon and spices floating in it.

Oranges, although not used in Bishop at Oxford, are, as will appear by the following lines, written by Swift, sometimes introduced into that beverage:—

Fine oranges  
Well roasted, with sugar and wine in a cup,  
They'll make a sweet Bishop when gentlefolk sup.

When this is put upon the table there are few, we imagine, who would be found to say, *Nolo Episcopari*—not even Dr. Percy of Rochester.

But what is Swig? The name sounds low—it is vulgar. We admit all this—but what's in a name?

"Brutus will raise a ghost as well as Cæsar."  
All sort of malt liquor is, we know, wrong, but it may be pleasant. We doubt if Mr. Fowell Buxton (or any other brewer) would differ from us in this opinion. However, be it low or high, here follows the recipe:—

The Wassail Bowl, or Swig, as it is termed at Jesus College in this University, is of considerable antiquity, and up to this time is a great favourite with the sons of Cambria—so much so, indeed, that a party seldom dines or sups in that College without its forming a part of their entertainment. On the festival of St. David, Cambria's tutelary saint, an immense silver gilt bowl, containing ten gallons, and which was presented to Jesus College by Sir Watkin W. Wynne, in 1732, is filled with Swig, and handed round to those who are invited on that occasion to sit at their festive and hospitable board. The following is the method of manufacturing it at that College:—

Put into a bowl half a pound of Eison sugar; pour on it one pint of warm beer; grate a nutmeg and some ginger into it; add four glasses of sherry and five additional pints of beer; stir it well; sweeten it to your taste; let it stand covered up two or three hours, then put three or four slices of bread cut thin and toasted brown into it, and it is fit for use. Sometimes a couple or three slices of lemon, and a few lumps of loaf sugar rubbed on the peeling of a lemon are introduced.

Bottle this mixture, and in a few days it may be drank in a state of effervescence.

The Wassail Bowl, or Wassail Cup, was formerly prepared in nearly the same way as at present, excepting that roasted apples, or crab-



apples, were introduced instead of toasted bread. And up to the present period, in some parts of the kingdom, there are persons who keep up the ancient custom of regaling themselves and neighbours on Christmas-eve and Twelfth-eve with a Wassail Bowl, with roasted apples floating in it, and which is generally ushered in with great ceremony. Shakspeare alludes to the Wassail Bowl when he says, in his *Midsummer Night's Dream*—

Sometimes lurk I in a gossip's bowl,  
In very likeness of a roasted crab,  
And when she drinks, against her lips I bob,  
And on her wither'd dewlap pour the ale.

We shall not say anything further on the subject of hordaceous drinks. We beg, however, to throw out that the audit ale of Cambridge is rather superior to any fluid of the same kind in the sister University. Let the men of Isis look to it.

Punch also, we shall pass over, but reluctantly, for as the Chaplain, in *Jonathan Wild*, properly observes, it is a much more orthodox liquor than wine, for there is not a word spoken against it in the Scriptures. We suspect our author of a false charge in the following: "Ignorant servants and waiters sometimes put oxalic acid into punch to give it a flavour; such a practice cannot be too severely censured."

We admit that such a practice, if it exists, is very vile; but we doubt that any waiter puts boot-top-fluid into any liquor intended to be drunk. We should think the eminent author intended to say "malic;" but chemistry does not seem to be cultivated in Oxford.

Negus, as Byron remarks, is a paltry drink, having neither the pleasure of wine or the propriety of water; and therefore we pass it by to give a receipt for sack posset—

POSSET.

From fam'd Barbadoes, on the western main,  
Fetch sugar, ounces four; fetch sack from Spain  
A pint; and from the Eastern Indian coast  
Nutmeg the glory of our northern toast;  
O'er flaming coals let them together heat,  
Till the all-conquering sack dissolve the sweet;  
O'er such another fire put eggs just ten,  
New-born from tread of cock and rump of hen;  
Stir them with steady hand and conscience pricking,  
To see th' untimely end of ten fine chicken;  
From shining shelf take down the brazen skillet,  
A quart of milk from gentle cow will fill it;  
When boil'd and cold, put milk and sack to eggs,  
Unite them firmly like the triple league,  
And on the fire let them together dwell  
Till miss sing twice—you must not kiss and tell:  
Each lad and lass take up a silver spoon,  
And fall on fiercely like a starv'd dragoon.

Sir Fleetwood Fletcher's Sack Posset.

With this we conclude. The reader who wants to know the mysteries of Law-sleeves or Cardinal, Storative or Rumbouze, Run-fostian or Brown Betty, must consult the work itself. It is written, we understand, by the punch-maker in ordinary for the college of Brazenose, and has obtained an *imprimatur* from the Chaplain of the late Lord Mayor. There are few better books in our time, and we have read some thousand worse.

Exchange at New-York on London 11 per cent.

THE ALBION.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1827.

The Packet Ship *Cadmus*, from Havre, arrived on Tuesday, furnishing us with Paris dates to the 15th, and London to the 13th ult. We have made a few extracts, and inserted in another place.

The British Packet arrived at Annapolis on the 20th inst. via Bermuda, with the September mail. She brought London dates to the 10th ult., three days later than our advices from Liverpool.

The intelligence received is not of great moment, yet it would seem, that Europe is upon the verge of, if not important, certainly interesting, events. How the Ottoman government will receive the proposals of the allied powers is still a problem, subject to the augmented uncertainty which the uniform obstinacy and perverseness of Turkish policy naturally gives it. The 31st August was the day fixed upon for the reply to the *ultimatum*, and consequently, that period was looked forward to with intense anxiety: on it depends the happiness or misery of Greece, at least for some time to come. In the event of a refusal of the Turks to listen to the terms of accommodation proposed to them, (and which is more than suspected,) it is an object of curious speculation to consider what steps will be taken by the combined fleets. Many think the bombardment of Constantinople, and a generally active interposition in favour of the Greeks will take place. We have, however, always been of opinion that the efforts of the respective squadrons will be confined to measures of blockade, and to separating the combatants wherever they may be found in a state of actual collision; the principle acted upon being, not to take sides with either party, but to prevent both from longer shedding each other's blood—because they do not fight according to the usages of war, there being but little or no prospect of their bloody contest coming to an end, and because humanity shudders, and cannot longer tolerate the disgusting ferocities practised by both. If this, and nothing more be done, it will effect a vast deal for Greece; for the blockade of the Hellespont and the mouths of the Nile, will cut off all reinforcements, and leave the Greeks to cope with those Turks only who are now on their soil. The recognition, too, of Greece, as an independent nation, with Capo d' Istria at its head, will soon enable that glorious country to effect its entire emancipation, and once more take rank among the nations of the earth.

The affairs of Portugal are also of some moment, since the report of Don Miguel being about to assume the Regency, (from his known devotion to the Priests and ultras) would seem to threaten an abandonment of the constitutional system. The accounts that have reached us upon this subject are extremely vague, and by no means to be relied on—therefore, in absence of positive information, we can only reason upon probabilities. The question presents itself in two ways; first, is it actually the fact, that Don Miguel is about to proceed to Portugal from Vienna, for the purpose mentioned? and, secondly, if so, is it with the consent of England? As we have stated, the accounts are defective upon the first point, which must therefore remain undecided for the present; but, as respects the second, we are no way in doubt. It is not to be entertained for a moment that England has consented to any change or modification of the constitutional government incompatible with

the spirit of the charter, given by Don Pedro, for such an abandonment of the ground she has hitherto taken would be inconsistent with the dignity of her character and at war with the sincerity and stability which always mark her national policy. It is absurd then to suppose, that Austrian or other interests have prevailed over hers: she is pledged to uphold the new constitution of Portugal; she has the inclination to stand by that pledge (for the death of Mr. Canning has not changed her politics), and what is more, she has the power to do it from the presence of her troops on the theatre of action. England then, we may safely infer, has not consented for Don Miguel to take the reins, without a satisfactory guarantee for his good behaviour.

The only remaining topic we shall touch upon to-day is the war between Russia and Persia. All the recent accounts from Georgia concur in stating that victory still hovers over the standards of the Muscovites; indeed the degenerate Asiatics are by no means able to cope with the hardy soldiers of the North, armed with European weapons, and led by officers skilled in modern tactics. Nothing remains for Persia to do but to give the "indemnity for the past and security for the future," as demanded by the Autocrat, by making a sacrifice of territory, unless indeed England interposes her friendly influence by virtue of the treaty existing between herself and Persia. A short time will, as we stated at the outset of this article, throw important lights upon these several questions.

*Treaty of Ghent*.—The Commissioners for settling the boundary under the *Seventh Article* of the above treaty, have, after much labor and patient investigation, this day closed their labors and made their final reports to their respective governments. It is gratifying to state, that the aforesaid Commissioners have amicably determined by far the largest portion of the line; two points only have been referred to the Governments, viz. one affecting St. George's Island, below the Sault de St. Marie, in the water communication between Lakes Huron and Superior; and the other, the water communication of Lake Superior (north-west of that lake,) and Lac La Pluie. The Commissioners, it will be recollected, are, Anthony Barclay, Esq. and General Porter.

We understand that in the alterations now making at the *Chatham Garden Theatre*, every attention will be paid to the convenience and comfort of the audience. It is also determined that females of a certain description shall be rigidly excluded; and, as an earnest of the sincerity of this intention, we are informed, that the upper tier of boxes has been entirely removed.

An *Agricultural Almanac* for the ensuing year has lately been published in Boston; which, being prepared by the Editor of "The New England Farmer," will need no other recommendation than the notice of those engaged in husbandry. It is for sale in this city, by Messrs. Thorburn, Seedsmen, Liberty Street.

CLIO,

By J. G. Percival. No. III. G. & C. Carvill, New York, 1827.

This is another volume of gems put forth by one of the sweetest American poets, in continuation of a series which he has promised his countrymen. The present number well sustains the reputation of the author; and, although a large portion of the pieces have already appeared fugitively, we are sure the public will be glad to meet them again in the chaste and beautiful form in which the publishers have embodied them. We extract a couple which have never been published in this journal.

THE GREEK SONG OF VICTORY.

The red day of slaughter is done;  
The rose tint is pale in the west;  
The triumph of Liberty won,  
Joy swells each Athenian breast:  
We have buried our foes in the wave,  
That rolls on our iron-bound shore;  
And the foot of the Ottoman slave  
Shall dare scale our ramparts no more:  
They came in their pride and their pomp to the fight,  
But have scattered like dust, in the rush of our might.  
They came with the dawning of day;  
The sun brightly glanced on their sails;  
And their fleet, on its conquering way,  
Bore forward with favouring gales:  
Like a dark cloud of tempest they came;  
Already they uttered their yell—  
When we let loose our arrows of flame,  
And the pride of the Mussulman fell:  
Then the waves with the fire and the slaughter were red,  
And our prows hurried on through the dying and dead.  
They are gone—and the sea rolls again  
In peace on our iron-bound shore;  
They have left but the wreck and the stain,  
Where the green waves heaved purple with gore:  
As the last light grows dim in the west,  
O God of the brave and the free!  
How the fullness that swells in each breast  
Is poured forth in blessing to thee:  
For we trusted in thee—and the arm of thy might  
Has scattered our foes in perilous fight.

THE LANGUAGE OF FLOWERS.

In eastern lands they talk in flowers,  
And they tell in a garland their loves and cares;  
Each blossom that blooms in their garden bowers,  
On its leaves a mystic language bears.  
The rose is the sign of joy and love,  
Young blushing love in its earliest dawn;  
And the mildness that suits the gentle dove,  
From the myrtle's snowy flower is drawn.  
Innocence shines in the lily's bell,  
Pure as a heart in its native heaven;  
Fame's bright star, and glory's swell,  
By the glossy leaf of the bay are given.  
The silent, soft, and humble heart  
In the violet's hidden sweetness breathes;  
And the tender soul that cannot part,  
A twine of evergreen fondly wreathes.  
The cypress that darkly shades the grave,  
Is sorrow that mourns her bitter lot;

And faith, that a thousand ills can brave,  
Speaks in 'thy blue leaves, forget-me-not.  
Then gather a wreath from the garden bowers,  
And tell the wish of thy heart in flowers.

THE NATIONAL READER,

A Selection of Exercises in Reading and Speaking, designed to fill the same place in the Schools of the United States, that is held in those of Great Britain by the compilations of Murray, Scott, Enfield, Mylius, Thompson, Ewing, and others. By John Pierpont, Compiler of the first American Class Book. Boston: Published by Hilliard, Gray, Little, and Wilkins, and Richardson and Lord. 1827.

This work is upon the principle of the English Reader and others so well known as School Books. The selections are judicious and well adapted to American Schools, where the volume in question will doubtless form an useful auxiliary to those already in use. Several original articles of much merit from the pens of Mr. Pierpont, Mr. Bryant, Mr. Ellis, and others are inserted.

Intelligence received by the *Cadmus*.

Count Capo d'Istria has been encouraged by the Courts of England, France, and Russia, to accept the Government of the Greek Republic.

An amazing number of persons of rank and fashion have crossed to the Continent from England, for the purpose of being present at the grand review, which takes place at St. Omer's, before the King of France.

Sir W. Scott's new work, "The Chronicles of the Cannongate," in two volumes, consists of three tales,—the Highland Widow, The Two Drovers, and The Surgeon's Daughter. The first two will occupy one volume, and the last the second. They will appear about the end of this month, and will be followed by "The Tales of a Grandfather," from the same pen, in November.

Arrangements have been made at the London Opera House with Madame Pasta and Mademoiselle Sontag, for the ensuing season.

London, Sept. 12.—Letters patent have been made out to pass the Great Seal, creating the Earl of Darlington Marquis of Cleveland. Mr. Stanley, the member for Preston, succeeds the Right Hon. R. Wilmot Horton as Under Secretary for the Colonies.

The *Augsburgh Gazette* contains the following important intelligence, of the 22d ult from Constantinople:—"On the 16th inst. the Ambassadors of England, France, and Russia, delivered to the Reis-Effendi, through the medium of their Drogmans, the Treaty of London of June 6, as an *ultimatum*. The Reis-Effendi inquired of the Drogmans what were the contents of the notes which accompanied the Treaty: but these having replied that they knew nothing about them, the Turkish Minister put them aside, without acknowledging the reception of them. The delay for the acceptance of the Treaty, which was at first fixed at 30 days, is reduced to 15, so that now there remains only 8 days. It is said that Mr. Stratford Canning having requested the Austrian Internuncio to counsel the Divan to accede to the propositions of three Courts, his Excellency refused. Yesterday the Prussian Minister having made some representations to the Reis Effendi, the latter replied that the *ultimatum* was a letter of charge, which would never be paid. The 31st of August is looked forward to with the greatest anxiety. It is rumoured that on the 1st of August the Egyptian fleet of 100 sail, with 4000 men on board, sailed from Alexandria for Navarino.

Stock Exchange, London, Sept. 12th, 2 o'clock.—An improvement may be quoted in the price of Consols, without any increase in business. The Money-Market is extremely good; the prices are 87 3/4 for money, and 87 3/4 7-8 for October. A further sale of Exchequer Bills, to the amount of £60,000 has lowered the price about 2s. per cent. Mexican Bonds are the only Foreign Securities dening in. Their present price is at 66 to 1-4, having been at one time 65 3/4.

—Columbian are 21 1-2 30—Greek 1 to 1-2—Spanish 10 to 1-2.—French 5 per cent 10 to 50—French 3 per cent 73.—Russian 93 1-4.

London, Sept. 13.—The exchange was quite active to-day, and Consols advanced 1-4 per cent, but settled at 88, sellers. A sale of £25,000 Exchequer bills in the morning produced no alteration, and they continued at 58 to 59 premium.

MORE SPLENDID SUCCESS AT SYLVESTER'S.—We last week gave the numbers of the New-York Lottery, and in the hurry overlooked the \$20,000, a quarter of which we actually paid a few days since to a Lady, it was sent in the country; this should induce all our correspondents to write soon for a ticket or share in the Lottery to be drawn the 7th of next month, only 14,000 tickets, and prizes of \$50,000, \$20,000, \$10,000 \$4,520, &c. &c. and lowest prize \$20. Present price of tickets \$20, Half \$10, Quarter \$5. We would also remind our friends that it was only a few days since we sold the \$25,000 prize, in a whole ticket. Orders from the country meet particular attention if addressed to N. & S. SYLVESTER, 130 Broadway.

Gold, Silver, and Bank of England Notes bought and sold, also Bills of Exchange on England. [Oct. 27.]

BOARDING AND ROOMS.—A few good Rooms in a House pleasantly situated with a southern aspect at the Battery, and with boarding, or breakfast only. This situation is recommended by its being less noisy than other parts of the city, and a very agreeable winter residence for small families. Accommodation also for a few gentlemen who may agree to occupy one room. Terms more moderate than usual. Inquire at No. 6 State-street. [Oct. 27.]

A YOUNG GENTLEMAN, lately graduated wishes employment as a Teacher. A situation in or near New York would be preferred. For references and other particulars, application may be made at this office; if by letter, post-paid. [Oct. 27.]

SCHUYLKILL COAL.—The New York and Schuylkill Coal Company have now landing, several cargoes of Coal, of a superior quality. Orders for which, left at their office corner of Beaver lane and Washington street, or with Thomas R. Mercier, No 48 Wall-st. will be promptly attended to. WALTER NEXSEN, Secretary.

Persons residing at Brooklyn, are respectfully informed that Orders for Coal, left at the above named places, will be promptly supplied from vessels lying there. [Oct. 27.]

Be it Remembered, That on the 10th day of August, A. D. 1827, in the 52d year of the Independence of the United States of America, T. D. Porter, of the said district, hath deposited in this office the title of a book, the right whereof he claims as proprietor, in the words following, to wit: Comparative Price Current, and European and American Commercial Reporter.

In conformity to the Act of Congress of the United States, entitled "An Act for the encouragement of Learning, by securing the copies of Maps, Charts, and Books, to the authors and proprietors of such copies, during the time therein mentioned." And also an Act, entitled "An Act, supplementary to an Act, entitled an Act for the encouragement of Learning, by securing the copies of Maps, Charts, and Books, to the authors and proprietors of such copies, during the times therein mentioned, and extending the benefits thereof to the arts of designing, engraving, and etching historical and other prints." FRED. I. BETTS, Clerk of the Southern District of New-York. [Oct. 27.]

BOYS' CLOTHING EMPORIUM.—James A. Campbell still continues his business at 303 Broadway, where in addition to a constant supply of ready made dresses for boys of any age of the latest and most fashionable patterns to suit the different tastes of parents, he now offers to the public an extensive assortment of ready made linen, cravats, stiffeners, gloves suspenders, elastic belts, &c. on the most reasonable terms.

Mourning dresses for boys furnished at the shortest notice without the delay ordinarily attendant upon occasions of family afflictions. N. B. Gentlemen's clothing made to order at the shortest notice. [Oct. 27.]

CARD TO THE LADIES.—Mrs. Cantelo has removed her Corset Warehouse to the house formerly occupied by Mrs. Langlois, No. 203, Broadway, a few doors below St. Paul's Church, between Fulton and Bay streets. Mrs. Cantelo has connected the Millinery and Dress Making with her Corset Establishment and has no doubt by her attention and punctuality to give satisfaction. [Oct. 28.]



POETRY.

FOR THE ALBION.

[The following is from the pen of a gentleman whose effusions have before enriched our columns.]

ON THE DEATH OF SIR THOMAS PICTON AT WATERLOO.

He moved not a limb, he spoke not a word
As wounded he lay on the ground;
But sighs heaved his breast as he gazed on his sword,
And each sigh forced the blood from his wound.

The arm which had wielded that sword was numb,
But its strength had been felt in the fight;—
The tongue which had cheered to the battle was dumb,
But the eye of the warrior was bright.

For England had triumphed—he gloried in death
That approached him on victory's wing,
And a smile lit his brow as he yielded his breath
In the cause of his Country and King.

The heroes he led bore his corse to the grave,
And wept in their fulness of grief;
They who death in the field were accustomed to brave
Were subdued by the death of their chief.

SONNET.

To T. Hood, Esq.

Written after Reading his Plea of the Midsummer Fairies.

Delightful Bard! what praises meet are thine,
More than my verse can sound to thee belong;
Well hast thou pleaded, with a tongue divine,
In this thy sweet and newly breathed song,
Where like the stream smooth numbers gliding throng;
Gather'd methinks I see the elin race,
With the immortal standing them among,
Smiling benign with more than courtly grace;
Rescued I see them—all their gambols trace.
With their fair Queen Titania in her bower,
And all their avocations shall embrace,
Pictur'd by thee with a Shakspearean power—
O, when the time shall come thy soul must flee,
Then may some hidden spirit plead for thee.

E. M.

The Drama

The Park Theatre.—During the last week, Mr. Horn has been the principal attraction at this house. We regret it should be necessary to inform any portion of the public that his talents are indeed worthy of attracting all the musical portion of the town.—The houses, however, have been less crowded than they deserved to be. "There is no accounting for tastes," is a very ancient maxim, and as true as most of its fellows. It would be a curious speculation to render reasons for the difference of patronage experienced by Phillips and Horn. In voice, knowledge, taste, and effect,—in every thing that constitutes a great singer,—the latter is infinitely the superior. Yet, mark the scantier encouragement which he has received. Mr. Phillips, in his first year in America, gained upwards of \$37,000,—an enormous sum. Mr. Horn is singing to houses of \$600 or \$700. It may be said that Phillips was a novelty—that he was the first to introduce scientific singing amongst us—that the number of theatres has been quadrupled since his time—that his success was more owing to the circumstances under which he appeared, than to any positive merit of his own. All these causes had their influence, do doubt; but, it must be remembered, that Phillips' style created a taste and gave an impulse before unknown; and, that though the charm of novelty may have been destroyed by the appearance of Pearman, and by the still greater efficiency of the Italian Opera, yet, the substitution of a refined taste in place of a rude liking, ought to operate with a wider and more marked influence now. However, these considerations are curious rather than conclusive. Mr. Horn's great merits no one can question; and those who do not admire his displays, must settle the matter with their own connoisseurship as well as they can. The Henry Bertram of Mr. H. was perhaps more pleasing than the Seraskier. The songs are generally of a more modern and more popular cast. They are enriched with touches of Scottish melody, and awaken Scottish associations. It is no part of our system to enter into minute criticism on singing; our competence to such a task is confined to a lively sensibility, and some experience of first-rate music. These capabilities could shew themselves in little else than a general expression of delight. Suffice it then to say, that in Henry Bertram and Orlando (the Cabinet) Mr. Horn delighted all who heard him, and, not least, ourselves. Mrs. Knight is the favorite she ever was: with no overweening pretensions, she is an agreeable and tasteful vocalist, and, though she has one superior, (Signorina Garcia) she has no equal. The Freyschulz is to be brought out with much care. Horn, in Caspar, Mrs. Knight in Bertha, with Mesdames Hacket and Sharpe and Mr. Boyle. The choruses are now in a course of manipulation, under the master hands of Mr. Horn. Much may be expected from this chef d'oeuvre of modern composition.

The French Company has returned from its Philadelphia expedition, where the public liberality was showered down upon it in the most desirable manner. Nothing for many years has so fascinated the fashion of our sister-city as these performances. Each night was a succession of triumphs for the actors, and of display for the audience. It seemed to be a contest among the leaders of ton which should most strenuously and efficiently patronize the troupe. In encouraging the players, they gratified themselves, and vanity perhaps had something to do with the matter as well as taste. Very beautiful or very well dressed ladies take as much delight in shewing off their charms or their ornaments, as in listening to a play; and there is a great deal more of genuine gratification in criticising a rival, than in criticising an actor. But no matter what may have been the motive, the effect was manifest: the French Company increased their reputation and their profits, and left Philadelphia with a promise of visiting it again. They performed the Solitaire in this city last night: a sort of crazy melo-drama, founded on a crazy novel, of a crazy French Viscount, (D'Arincourt.) The thing was extravagantly popular during the first fury of fashion, but it has been long fading out of the public recollection.

We should state, that Miss Kelly is to have a benefit on Tuesday next. Her talents have been so often praised by us, and are so well known to the town, that little else is needed to ensure a house than to state the fact; and add, that Mr. Horn will contribute his assistance, and Miss Clara Fisher will appear in Old and Young.

The Bowery.—The Signorina's benefit on Tuesday last, in point of brilliancy and numbers exceeded anything we ever saw in New York. The two lower tiers were thronged with the most respectable company, who had come there with all kindly feelings to testify their admiration for the talents and respect for the character of Signorina Garcia. The pit was equally remarkable for the high cast of its occupants. The newspapers (but they are unsafe authorities) estimate

the receipts at \$2,200. She did all she could to shew her thankfulness, for from her first entre till the curtain's fall she was constantly on the stage pouring forth a stream of delicious melody. In a little piece d'occasion (L'Aspirante) she gave specimens of her skill in French, English, German, Italian and Spanish—speaking the language purely and singing the songs exquisitely. The scena from Otello was touchingly performed and reminded us of Pasta's glorious execution of the same passages. It is printed in the journals that before she forever abandons us for her dearer native land she will appear once again before the public.

They have brought out at this theatre a melo-dramatic spectacle called Peter Wilkins or the Flying Indians. The scenery is superb, the story is so-so, the dialogue excessively bad, and the acting tolerably good. It would be a waste of toil to point out the hundred thousand anacronisms, impossibilities and inconsistencies of this piece, and it would be almost impossible to praise in adequate terms the beauty and splendor of the scenery. The whole affair hinges on the shipwreck of three or four persons on a rocky island in some remote sea, where they are tormented in their solitude by a mischievous wild-man, and cheered and excited by some winged females. Peter Wilkins is the captain of this adventurous crew, and with an infinite deal of romance in his language and whisker on his face, he bewitches Yourawkee into an acceptance of his hand. Yourawkee, (Mrs. Barrett) has wings to her shoulders, and is very bewitching; her sister Hallycarnie (Celeste) has wings on her heels. (Judging from their lightness) and is (because she is single and not in love) still more bewitching. The tribe of Flying Indians is brought on the stage, or rather in the air, for they are continually hovering about with their gauze wings and their yellow ancles. Long flocks of them (like wild geese) pass over the back part of the theatre exciting the most murderous desires in the sporting part of the audience, and the most punning propensities in the visitors from Philadelphia. "Where do they all come from?" asked a stranger: "They come from Ayrshire," answered an amateur Billy Black, "and they are going to the Isle of sky." We have no room to particularize the scenes which most deserve praise. They are all worthy of being seen.

The La Fayette is gaining on the town. The Manager is sedulous to diversify his performances, and has brought out some new and effective melo-dramas.

The Chatham Theatre is nearly ready for opening. A company has been collected, which will be entitled to patronage.

Mr. Hamblin has left town for Charleston, S. C. He will, in his course, perform at some of the theatres in Virginia. Mr. Cooper has already played two nights at Philadelphia, and will soon return to perform once or twice here.

A new piece (by Kenny) called "Spring and Autumn, or the Bride at Fifty," has been brought out at the Haymarket, and was enthusiastically applauded.

Those who take any interest in foreign theatricals, and more especially our English and French readers, will perhaps be gratified by the ensuing notices of the novel establishment of an English Theatre in Paris.

The first performance of the English Company last night at the Theatre de l'Odeon, met with the most kind and urbane reception from a numerous audience, the great majority of which was French.—Amongst the brilliant and fashionable audience, were several high diplomatic personages, distinguished literary characters, the principal actors of the Royal Theatres, in a word, the elite of society and talent now in the capital. Before the rising of the curtain the national strain of Vive Henri Quatre, followed by that of "God Save the King," was played amidst the mutual and unanimous plaudits of both French and English. Under the influence of the kindness of feeling increased, if not created, by this well timed measure, the curtain rose, Mr. Abbot came forward, and delivered a judiciously conceived and apposite Address, which was rendered still more effective by the dignified and feeling manner in which it was spoken. Several passages elicited the liveliest demonstrations of satisfaction, particularly from the French portion of the spectators. The performance of The Rivals then commenced, and was listened to with great attention, and an evident disposition to be pleased. It would be needless here to go into any elaborate criticism of a so well-known performance as Liston's Bob Acres. Though not one of his most effective parts, it still furnished him with some occasions of proving to the French public how justly founded is his reputation as a great comic actor. His challenge inditing scene, and the meeting that follows, were his most felicitous efforts, and seemed to have been keenly relished by the audience. Where he to play a part less exclusively local, the peculiarities or eccentricities of which might be more universally understood, for instance, Sir Bashful Constant, in "The Way to Keep Him," we have no doubt his triumph would be complete. The gentlemanly deportment, correct and spirited acting, and perfect tone of good society, displayed by Mr. Abbot in his personation of Captain Absolute, made a favourable impression. Miss Smithson's handsome person, and lovely and natural manner of acting, render her a very attractive Lydia Languish. This young lady and Mr. Abbot bid fair to become favourites here. Of the representatives of Faulkland and Julia (Mr. Mason and Mrs. Russell) we are really puzzled what to say, having had scarcely an opportunity of lodging of them, they spoke in such very low and indistinct tones, and seemed so very solicitous, not always to let the audience into the secret of their dialogue. It will be better, therefore, to suspend judgment till there be more matter to form one on. Mr. Chippendale looked a respectable Sir Anthony Absolute, but he insisted, and commanded, and stormed in by far too lame and unabsolute way. The peculiarity of accent and national characteristics of Sir Lucius O Trigger were of course lost upon the French part of the audience. There is some spirit and humour in Mr. Power's sketch of this character, though on the whole we must look upon it as a rough sketch. Mrs. Smithson, who played Mrs. Malaprop, dressed and looked the character with becoming respectability, but her voice was scarcely audible in many parts of the house. Mrs. Bennet, as Lucy, was rather too smart and vivacious. Messrs. Brindal and Latham, as Fag and David, were useful in their vocation. Mr. Brindal, however, might be better.—The enlightened urbanity practised by the French on this occasion augurs well for the destiny of the English Theatre here, and we have strong hopes that, by means of a judicious selection of pieces, a succession of first-rate actors, and a more efficient permanent company, we may be long gratified by English performances in Paris.

As this is the first and possibly the last time we shall ever touch upon the subject, our readers will excuse us for making another extract. It should be recollected that four or five years ago a few strolling strangers attempted a Theatre in Paris, and were pelted off the stage.

The vast arena of the Odeon was, on Tuesday night, crowded almost to suffocation, by as elegant an assemblage as ever graced the walls of a theatre to witness the first representation of an English tragedy. The French portion of the spectators, on this occasion formed an overwhelming majority, numbers of whom were warm admirers of the immortal English bard, with whose work they were evidently well acquainted; and many, who, with a feeling, though somewhat illiberal, it is hard to discommend, are so enthusiastically and exclusively attached to the admirable Dramatists of their own country, that, remembering only the glorious names of Corneille, Racine, Voltaire, they see, in the honourable tribute paid to the ge-

nius of Shakspeare, only an invasion of those rights they would exclusively confer on their illustrious favourites. It is these prejudices that the establishment of an English Theatre in Paris is calculated to remove, particularly when devoted to such performances as those of Tuesday. The Tragedy selected for the evening was Hamlet, Mr. Charles Kemble appearing for the first time before a Parisian audience as the Prince, and a more triumphant debut was never exhibited on a Theatre. Of this gentleman's well known external qualifications for the stage it is scarcely necessary to speak,—they are perhaps unrivalled; a form of the manliest proportions, commanding height, a voice firm and flexible, and a countenance full of intelligence and expression. His entrance was greeted with ardent and long-continued applause from every part of the theatre, which having gracefully acknowledged, he proceeded with his task. The first soliloquy—"O that this too, too solid flesh would melt," was extremely well given. In the succeeding scene with the spirit of his father, the profound and breathless attention of the whole house, bore the best testimony of the power and truth of his personification. Nothing could be finer than the softened tenderness of his voice, when in conjuring the Ghost, he addressed it by the beloved name of Father; this was instantly seized by the audience, and rapturously applauded.—The great triumph of Mr. Kemble during the evening, was beyond all question this scene of the play. The terrific burst of exultation and vengeance with which he received the confirmation of the King's guilt, drew down reiterated rounds of the most enthusiastic applause. The interview with the Queen, which follows, the sublime reflections on morality, and the concluding scene, were all felicitously given and highly effective. The last act of this Tragedy is not equal to the preceding ones, and the perfect arrangement of the subordinate characters is essential to give it effect; the closing scene was somewhat marred by want of attention to this necessary point. At the fall of the curtain, loud and reiterated calls were made for Mr. Kemble, who, however, did not make his appearance, the regulations of Government prohibiting this mark of respect to the popular feeling of the audience. The scenery was disgraceful, and considerably impaired the effect of the finest part of the Tragedy.

The Company—Kemble, Liston and Abbot excepted, is evidently detestable.

NEW-YORK AND LIVERPOOL PACKETS.

Table with columns: Ships, Masters, Days of sailing from New York, Days of sailing from Liverpool. Lists various shipping routes and dates.

Passage in the Cabin to Liverpool, thirty guineas: from Liverpool, thirty five guineas: including beds, bedding, wine, and stores of every description. No. 1 and 3, Old Line. Owners, I. Wright & Son, F. Thompson, B. Marshall, and J. Thompson.—No. 2, New Line. Owners, Byrnes, Trimble & Co. and Saml. Hicks & Sons.—No. 4, Packet Line. Owners, Fish, Grinnell & Co. Agents in Liverpool 1st and 3d Line, Cropper, Benson & Co.—2d Line, Wm and James Brown & Co.—and 4th, Cearns, Fish & Cray.

NEW-YORK AND LONDON PACKETS.

Table with columns: Ships, Masters, Days of sailing from New York, Days of sailing from London. Lists shipping routes between New York and London.

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